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Agawam Advertiser News

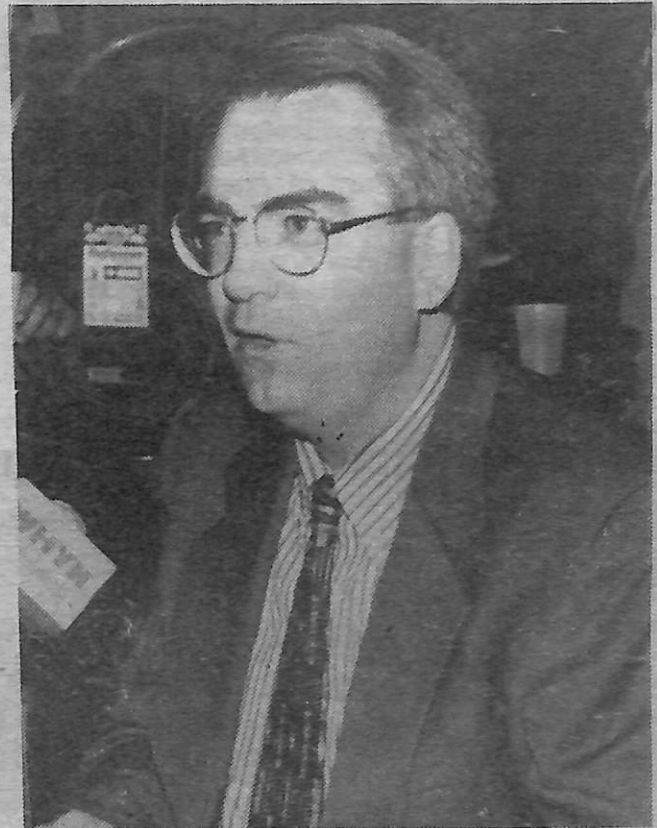
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Volume XX Number 43

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

October 30, 1997

Yorke Show Hosts Lively Mayor Debate



THE DAN YORKE SHOW on WHYN AM 560, hosted by Dan Yorke of Feeding Hills (center), set up shop at the Agawam Municipal Country Club for a live remote of a spirited mayoral forum between challenger Kent Servis (left) and incumbent Christopher C. Johnson at the Agawam Country Club sponsored by WHYN AM 560 and *The Agawam Advertiser News*. RELATED PHOTO INSIDE. *Advertiser News* photos by Jack Devine.

Pioneer Valley Soccer Team Travels In Style!



AAN News Editor Kathy Cassanelli co-hosted the Dan Yorke Show on WHYN AM 560 that pitted Mayor Christopher C. Johnson and challenger Kent Servis in a head-to-head forum/debate. *Advertiser News* photo by Jack Devine.

MEMBERS OF THE AGAWAM SOCCER ASSOCIATION'S "Unbroilevables," a U-11 girls team in the Pioneer Valley U-11 Girls first division, returned from their last game of the season in style last Thursday. Following their game up in Northampton, Coaches Eddie Santaniello (far right) and Earle Hollister (far left), hired a stretch limo to bring the team back to Santaniello's Bruno's Pizzeria for a fitting end to the 1997 fall season. RELATED STORY IN SPORTS SECTION. *Advertiser News* photo by Jack Devine.

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

APPROVED ORDINANCE
TOR-97-10

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AGAWAM ZONING ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR A MORATORIUM ON WIRELESS COMMUNICATION FACILITIES AND TO AMEND CHAPTER 180, ARTICLE I, GENERAL PROVISIONS, SECTION 180-2, DEFINITIONS AND WORD USAGE AND SECTION 180-8, SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS.

WHEREAS, there have been significant changes recently in the federal law regulating wireless communications facilities because of the enactment of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 by the United States Congress; and

WHEREAS, there have been significant changes in the state law regulating the zoning of wireless communications facilities because of the decision of the Department of Public Utilities in the Nextel/Town of Sterling case; and

WHEREAS, the Telecommunications field is experiencing rapidly evolving technology which offers alternatives to towers such as placement of antennas on buildings and water tanks; and

WHEREAS, Agawam is a prime area for wireless communications because of its centralized location and proximity to a number of interstate highways; and

WHEREAS, Agawam wishes to take into account probable future development, to prevent ill advised development and to plan for the welfare of its present and future inhabitants; and

WHEREAS, the Agawam Planning Board, Board of Appeals, and Town Council must undertake a comprehensive study with respect to regulating the use of land in Agawam for wireless communication facilities and develop a proposed zoning ordinance regulating the location, height, size, appearance, screening, site standards, structure relationships, buffer requirements and all other aspects of wireless communication facilities; and

WHEREAS, The Town of Agawam must act carefully in a field with evolving law and technology; and

NOW THEREFORE, the Agawam Town Council hereby amends Chapter 180, Article I, General Provisions, Section 180-2, Definitions and Word Usage of the Code of the Town of Agawam, which amendment shall be effective upon passage, by adding the following:

Wireless Communication Facilities - Any and

Dan Yorke & Gang At Mayoral Forum



THE DAN YORKE SHOW on WHYN AM 560 and *The Agawam Advertiser News* staged a live mayoral forum/debate between incumbent Christopher C. Johnson and challenger Kent Servis on Tuesday, October 28th, at the Agawam Municipal Country Club. Following the debate, the Savenko Family of Agawam, owners of Affordable Catering, put out a beautiful buffet supper for the candidates, their supporters, and those who attended. From left - Kent Servis, AAN Editor/Publisher Ric Sardella, Dan Yorke, Mayor Christopher C. Johnson, and Peter & Sandy Savenko. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

all materials, equipment, storage structures, towers and antennas, other than customer premises equipment, used by a telecommunications carrier to provide telecommunications services.

and Section 180-8M to read as follows:

No commercial wireless communications facilities, including but not limited to towers and antennas, shall be constructed in the Town of Agawam, nor shall a permit for said construction be issued for a period of four months from the

effective date of this ordinance. This ordinance does not apply to the construction or use of facilities by a federally licensed amateur radio operator as protected by Mass. General Laws c.40A, sec. 3.

Dated this 24th day of October, 1997.
PER ORDER OF THE AGAWAM TOWN COUNCIL
Kent P. Servis, Council President
APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY
Thomas S. Locke, Solicitor
Published: October 30, 1997

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ELECT KENT P. SERVIS MAYOR

- * Kent Has Stood Up For The Rights Of Agawam's Citizens
- * Kent Has Supported Every Issue That Benefits Senior Citizens

- Drafted And Got Passed "Agawam Taxpayers Bill Of Rights"
- Voted For Modernized Police Cruisers
- Voted For New Firetruck



- Voted For The New School Additions
- Kent Was Instrumental In Passing Funds For The Fire Dept. Rescue Boat
- Kent Led The Council Task Force To Resolve Riverside Traffic Problems

Kent Servis Said NO To Placing Porta Potties Along Main Street During Concerts!

Kent Stands For:

- Even-Tempered, Level-Headed Approach To Issues.
- Leadership That Is Willing To Listen To Both Sides Of An Issue.
- Leadership That Can Blend Financial Restraint With Friendly Compassion And Human Understanding.
- Leadership That Will Have A Real Commitment To Quality Education.
- Leadership That Will Provide Recreation Facilities For Agawam's Youth.

***Vote For Positive Change
Vote For Kent Servis***



Letters To The Editor

Let's Decorate Our Town With More U.S. Flags

To The Editor:

Dear Friends And Neighbors:

In last week's *Advertiser*, I read two very interesting letters. One was written by Ed Barako, praising Mr. Squazza for donating land to the town for the veterans' cemetery. The other was written by Ruth Thyberg, praising Ruth Bitzas for her wonderful work as veterans' agent for Agawam.

I think this is a wonderful opportunity to let the people of Agawam know that they can do something that will please both of these wonderful people, and honor our veterans at the same time.

Some time ago, the Veterans' Council launched a program to place two flags on all the poles along the parade route on Main Street. Now, they would like to extend that project to the new veterans' cemetery.

What a great opportunity to show these two people that we really care! For a mere \$20, you can place two flags on one of the poles along Main Street. Just think how Main Street will look by the next Memorial Day holiday!

Call Ruth at the Veterans' Council (786-0400, ext. 236) or mail \$20 to the Veterans's Council Gift Fund, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001.

Yes, Ed Barako, this is a wonderful town!

Vi Presz
Feeding Hills

Beautification Committee Says Thanks To Agawam DPW

To The Editor:

As another growing season comes to an end, we wish to publicly acknowledge and thank Jack Stone, John Savioli, Mike Piccin, and those many dedicated individuals on their DPW staffs who have contributed to its success.

These are the men who work silently behind the scenes and are responsible for flower barrels being filled and moved, trees planted and pruned, and planters watered.

Their efforts are an essential part of the team effort and support the efforts of our many private citizens and business volunteers.

Councilor George Bitzas and John Zebryk for
AGAWAM BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Let's Not Support Mayor's "Gift" To Berkshire Power

To The Editor:

Agawam Mayor Chris Johnson and four councilors are trying to give the stockholders of the Berkshire Power Corporation a gift of \$192,716,326 for building a power plant in Agawam. If Berkshire Power gets the town to accept \$1,200,000 per year in lieu of taxes of \$3,600,000 per year, the city will lose \$192,716,326

over the life of the contract.

The Berkshire Power Corporation is trying to get a 40-year non-negotiable, iron-clad contract with the town of Agawam to accept \$1,200,000 per year in lieu of taxes instead of paying \$3,600,000 per year in taxes, which is what other power plants this size are paying other cities. This 40-year contract can NOT be renegotiated during the entire 40-year period that terminates in the year 2037 A.D.

During the entire length of this 40-year, iron-clad contract, if interest rates increase and reach the amounts that were paid in the 1970's of 18 to 20 percent, Berkshire Power would be getting a free gift of millions of dollars each and every year of this 40-year contract that would have to be made up by increasing the taxes on every person in Agawam.

Borrowing the money to make up for the money given to Berkshire Power stockholders through this 40-year, iron-clad contract and having to pay interest on the large amounts borrowed to run the city could harm Agawam taxpayers for a very long period of time.

Vote NO on question number one on November 4th.

Vote the people out of office that have been supporting Berkshire Power on this gift.

Vote for Kent Servis for mayor. Agawam needs him NOW.

Vote for the 11 councilors that are going to fight against this \$192,716,326 gift to Berkshire Power.

Vote for: E. Caba, M. Del Negro, J. Langone, G.M. Letellier, P. Longo, D. Perry, D. Rheault, L. Russo, D. Skolnick, K. Stieg, and G. Suffriti.

Sincerely,
Patirck D. Carey, Jr.
Feeding Hills

Political Action Comm. Gets Response To Letter

To The Editor:

To Mr. Brouillette From TIP:

Well, sir, you win the prize!

I promised myself that I would resist all temptation to get involved in this year's political race. Well, your letter to the editor has made me break that pledge.

Let me tell you some of the things that the individuals you attacked have done.

Don Rheault has been praised by everyone including the present mayor as the best council president this town has ever had. His knowledge of parliamentary procedure was second to none and his running of the meetings were a far cry from the three-ring circus it is today.

Although a whole group of past and present councilors take credit for the completion of Rt. 57 to its present point, the one constant has been Don Rheault. He kept the Rt. 57 issue before the right people for over 20 years. Don, along with then Police Chief Stan Chmielewski, kept up the meetings and testimony at the state and federal level.

This is not meant to diminish the role of the scores of other elected officials and town employees who have helped bring Rt. 57 become a reality.

As a member of the Sacred Heart AA and as a co-founder of the Agawam AA, Don Rheault put his commitment on the line for the youth of this town. Many of today's citizens learned true sportsmanship and fair play from men like Don Rheault and Stan Chmielewski. Yes, "The Chief" (as he was known to everyone in town) was there, too.

When it was common to find drugs and razors in Halloween candy, it was Chmielewski who rose to the occasion and developed a Safe Halloween Program that was a success for many years. Stan also served as the chairman of the Bicentennial

Committee Celebration, Juvenile Diabetes Walk, and was the force behind the School Safety Patrol field trip to Washington.

Concerning your remark about a multi-thousand dollar settlement of a case involving the town, it was the town's decision to go to trial on the advice of the town attorney. Why did the Chief retire? Because he could, and why not?

With over 30 years of service to the town and its citizens, he deserved it. I could go on for pages and pages about the accomplishments of these two men, but time and space prohibit it. Both of these men I consider friends and I am not alone in the opinion that Agawam is a better place to live and work because of Don Rheault and Stan Chmielewski.

One final thought. What have you or your organization done for the Town of Agawam? ZERO. I thought so!

Dan Lacienski
Feeding Hills

Agawam Is Fortunate To Have A Mayor Like Johnson

To The Editor:

After watching the debate sponsored by the Democratic Town Committee on Tuesday, October 21st, it once again became clear how fortunate the Town of Agawam is to have a Mayor like Christopher Johnson. Mayor Johnson knowingly walked into what can only be described as an ambush, yet handled himself with the professionalism we have come to expect from him.

In an evening when the Mayor was confronted with mostly hostile and accusatory questions, while his opponent was served up "softball" questions (most of which he failed to hit), Chris Johnson showed his thorough grasp of all issues and clearly stated where he stood on each issue.

The defining moment of the evening came when the Mayor's opponent was asked what impact the refusal by the Teacher's Union to accept the concept of team teaching would have on the Agawam Schools. The candidate for Mayor gave a generic answer about the importance of education and expressed regret that the Teacher's Union had rejected the team teaching concept.

It was clear that it was not until Mayor Johnson pointed out that the premise of the question was incorrect and that the President of the Teacher's

SEE LETTERS - Page 5...

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sponsored By
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Monday, November 3rd
Agawam Lioness Club
At Partners Restaurant, Springfield Street
Cocktails: 6:30 p.m.; dinner: 7:00 p.m.
Call 786-9586

Friday, November 7th
"Friday Friday Series" to present
watercolor demonstration by Edward Minchin
At Agawam Public Library
7:30 p.m.

Free and open to the public
(a reception for the Agawam Community
Artists will precede the program at 6:30 p.m.)

Friday, November 7th
Nocturnal Adoration Society of
Agawam and West Springfield
At St. Anthony's Church, Agawam
7:00 to 11:00 p.m.

Monday, November 10th
Annual Communion Supper by the
Catholic Women's Club of Agawam
At St. John's Parish Center, Agawam
Mass at 6:00 p.m., followed by supper
Call 786-2055 for reservations

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LETTERS - from Page 4...

Union in fact endorsed the team teaching concept, and furthermore that the implementation of the plan had simply been postponed for one year, that the Mayor's opponent realized that the team teaching concept had not been rejected by the Teacher's Union.

The education of our children is too important to risk on a candidate who does now know what is going on in our schools and has expressed a desire to distance himself from the education of our children by not serving as the Chairperson of the School Committee, if elected Mayor.

It is no secret that the Mayor has made enemies during his tenure. What would be surprising would be if he had not made enemies. What is also true is that the core of the opposition to the Mayor consists of the old-time politicians whose political shenanigans caused the voters of Agawam to adopt the Mayoral form of government in the first place.

Time after time, one or another of the old-time political leaders has tried to unseat the Mayor, but they have failed. The new tactic is to work behind the scenes and push the candidacy of someone who is not readily identifiable as part of the "old boy" network. Don't be fooled.

I truly do not know why Chris Johnson continues to put his heart and soul into the job of being Mayor, when he is confronted at all turns by bitter, partisan personal attacks, but the voters of Agawam should be grateful that Chris continues to place himself in the line of fire and should express that gratitude by voting for Chris on November 4, 1997.

Let's not turn back the clock.

Very truly yours,
Robert J. Danie
Feeding Hills

Mayor Johnson Supports Euliano's Candidacy

To The Editor:

To The People Of Agawam:

I am writing to encourage your support of Bill Euliano in the November 4th municipal election.

Bill has served the Town of Agawam as Chairperson of the Board of Health for 12 years, and he has brought dedication, vision, and leadership to

that post. I have enjoyed working with him in improving our community's public health program.

Agawam needs that same dedication, vision, and leadership on the Agawam Town Council. Please consider Bill Euliano on Tuesday, November 4th.

Very Truly Yours,
Christopher C. Johnson
Mayor

Disappointed With Mayor Over "Small Issue"

To The Editor:

Last year, I was directed to Mr. Johnson for help resolving a situation in which the town had placed a light and pole abutting my property.

This created a problem because of my home's elevation, the street light itself is on eye level from my living room. This light is not a porch light, it's a 6300 lumen high pressure sodium vapor street light that shines into my home from dusk until dawn.

I was told by Mr. Johnson that in order to remove the offending light, I must obtain a petition from my neighbors stating it was OK with them to remove the light.

I did obtain and file just such a petition asking Mr. Johnson to remove ONE light from the street.

Mr. Johnson then sent a ballot to the households on the street offering to remove ALL the lights or leaving ALL the lights on the street.

To date, Mr. Johnson has not replied to my pleas for assistance or explanation.

I am extremely disappointed by Mr. Johnson's inability to deal with such a small issue with fairness, honesty, and integrity.

It has been truly refreshing to find individuals in our town government who have taken the time to demonstrate their willingness to help me. I would like to thank Mr. Kent Servis who, prior to his bid for election, has spent his own time to come to my home to see firsthand if my complaint was valid.

My family deeply appreciates the simple fact that he does care about ALL the people he serves.

Mr. Servis knew nothing more about me than Mr. Johnson did, however, Mr. Servis was able to assess my situation and understand how I would feel living under these conditions.

Our town needs more of these responsible leaders who have demonstrated their integrity

through their actions in supporting those of us who need a voice. We need leaders who have not lost touch with the realities most of us deal with every day.

Sincerely,
Joyce Tedone
Feeding Hills

Questions Berkshire Power's Claim About "Cheap Power"

To The Editor:

Last Friday, I received in the mail a brochure from Berkshire Power in reference to the proposed plant. On the second page, it states in BOLD letters "Plant will bring lower cost power."

My question is, "Who is going to be getting this lower cost power?" At the public hearing last week, I watched and heard Berkshire Project Manager Kenneth Roberts tell the council and the citizens attending and those watching on TV that we cannot purchase the energy this power plant will generate, albeit he was forced to answer this question and his answer was "No," we cannot buy from Berkshire Power.

For many of us, it has been a long, exhausting process to protect our families. As a wife and mother who has spent 30-plus years seeing the effects of what living with respiratory disease is like, I deeply resent Mayor Johnson's comment that the people against this project are absolute losers.

Maybe if the Mayor walked in our shoes or had a close relative with the same, he would understand what respiratory disease does to one, but again, maybe if he gets his way with this project, he might, or could be afforded that knowledge personally.

I personally do not care for the Mayor's PROMISE to put this project in our backyard regardless if the people vote overwhelmingly against it or not. That tells me maybe Mayor Johnson should go get a job with Berkshire Power. He sure has spent more time and energy in and out of court fighting on their behalf and AGAINST OURS!!!!

C. Philp
Agawam

SEE LETTERS - Page 6...



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This coupon is not redeemable on specially priced entrees, lunch menu items, or early bird specials. Only one coupon per couple, per visit. Coupon is not redeemable for cash or with any other coupon or special. Applicable taxes paid by bearer.

LETTERS - from Page 5...

Bitzas Champions Cause For Elderly, Schools

To The Editor:

Three weeks ago, you, the voters of Agawam, once again put your trust in me, as evidenced by the primary election results. Now, in the final election, I ask you once again for your vote so I can continue to work hard, with honesty, dignity, cooperation, and professionalism on your behalf.

I will always listen to your concerns and try to do my best to serve you. There are often as many different opinions on issues as there are voters. We may disagree respectfully, but this should not pull us apart.

I heard the message regarding a power plant referendum. On the council floor, the record shows I spoke in favor of it and voted to place it on the ballot.

The council must stop the confrontation and seek cooperation. We have many important issues facing our town and united we can accomplish many good things.

Please remember to vote on Tuesday, November 4th. I would greatly appreciate your vote again.

Sincerely,
George Bitzas
Agawam Town Councilor

Support Given For Berkshire Power Plant

To The Editor:

I will relate a conversation I had with Stephen Cirillo on September 12, 1996. Mr. Cirillo is the individual who some of Agawam's City Councilors described as the "man who wrote the book" on payment in lieu of tax agreements.

Mr. Cirillo is the individual who certain City Councilors raised money for to hire to render an independent opinion on the Berkshire Power plant proposal.

According to Mr. Cirillo, he had spent a lot of time researching the proposal. He noted that the people involved who had previously contacted him have already set their opinions, for or against the plant or the amount of the in-lieu of tax agreement.

Mr. Cirillo said he "probably feels the power plant is good for the community." He said he is not opposed to the power plant. He said the plant "improves the quality of life overall for Western Massachusetts."

I repeat, Mr. Cirillo said the power plant improves the quality of life overall for Western Massachusetts.

I would like to express my support for the Berkshire Power plant proposal. It is quite obvious the increase in revenue to the town will help all city taxpayers by holding down future property

tax increases, by providing additional funding to the school system to enhance our children's education, and by adding to or accelerating capital projects. The general town budget will be improved as well.

But we also need to look beyond our own neighborhood and town to see the benefit to Western Massachusetts and the entire New England region. Fifty-one percent of New England's generated electricity has come from dangerous and expensive nuclear power plants. A few of these plants have shut down in the last two years and we know the rest will, as well, over the next 10-30 years.

State-of-the-art, gas-fired power plants are the best viable long-term solution to replacing these nuclear plants and to providing additional sources of power for future growth.

I don't want the next Chernobyl to be in New England. Gas or nuclear power, this is an easy choice.

You can't grow up in the Springfield area without hearing many times over that the single greatest resource here is its renewable water supply. If we can't use water to promote our economy, then everything else we do, everything we make and use is even more precious, is more destructive to the environment, so we might as well call it quits and give up our entire economy!!

The greatest polluters to our environment are us, the everyday consumer, the everyday homeowners, and not efficient power plants. Snowblowers, lawnmowers, chainsaws, and woodstoves pollute more than even today's cars!

The facts, the data, and expert knowledgeable opinion clearly show a gas-fired power plant is good for Agawam.

Respectfully yours,
Chester R. Dziardziel
Agawam

Bitzas Has Great Passion For Many Things In Town

To The Editor:

Over 10 years ago, we met Councilor George Bitzas when our sons first began playing sports together. During this time, we've gotten to know him very well.

Councilor Bitzas works very hard for our town through his efforts in helping the elderly with their issues. Furthermore, he has supported the betterment of our schools, the need for more athletic fields for our children and endorsed the need for sidewalk and road improvements without increasing our taxes.

Six years ago, he began to have meetings to encourage others to champion the cause for more

classrooms in our schools. Councilor Bitzas organized a "drug and gang" education forum in our schools and pushed the issue for D.A.R.E. programs to be established in the upper grades as well as for protection and safety programs in our schools.

Today, we see significant progress in these areas. Councilor Bitzas has the vision for a better Agawam. He is not only a hard worker, but an achiever as well. He continues to have and deserves our support.

We hope you will join us on November 4th and vote for George. Let him continue to work for all of us.

Sincerely,
Andrew C. Jorgensen
Susan Jorgensen
Agawam

Let's Not Put Shovels In Ground For Power Plant Yet

To The Editor:

To The Residents:

Election Day is right around the corner. How we vote will decide the future of our town and who will be working for us.

I believe this Nov. '97 election will be one of the most important in Agawam's history. We have a very big decision to make. The Power Plant ballot question means so much to all of us.

It's hard to believe we almost didn't get a chance to vote on this. The Mayor stated on television that as residents, we're tired of the Power Plant issue. That somehow this Power Plant doesn't matter much to us.

Well, I believe as residents we are tired of all the yelling back and forth. Also, we're tired of all the bad behavior on both sides. But, I believe every resident cares greatly about whether we have a Power Plant operating in our town. As residents, we decide on Election Day if this is the beginning or the ending of the Power Plant issue.

I realize statements have been made about ground-breaking next month by Berkshire Power. This could be very premature! Many people are watching how we vote. We have made national news. Our elected officials (not the town), state and federal, want to see the results of what we as residents say.

In the past, we voted the casino out of our town! That would have changed the entire defini-

SEE LETTERS - Page 7...



TOWN WARRANT FOR THE TOWN ELECTION

Hampden ss:

to either of the constables of the Town of Agawam.

Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and in compliance with the provisions set forth in the Agawam Home Rule Charter as adopted November 16, 1971, the inhabitants of the Town of Agawam, Massachusetts qualified to vote in elections, are herewith notified to meet in their respective polling places as follows:

- Precinct 1:** Robinson School, 65 Begley Street
- Precinct 2:** Clifford M. Granger School, South Westfield Street
- Precinct 3:** Agawam High School, 760 Cooper Street
- Precinct 4:** Agawam Middle School, 100 Main Street
- Precinct 5:** Benjamin J. Phelps School, School Street
- Precinct 6:** James Clark School, 65 Oxford Street
- Precinct 7:** Agawam Junior High School, Springfield Street

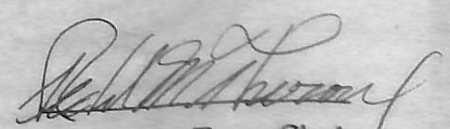
on Tuesday, the fourth day of November 1997, at eight o'clock a.m. then and there to bring in their ballots for the election of officials to the following offices:

- * Mayor
- * Councilor
- * School Committee

The polls will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

BY ORDER OF THE AGAWAM TOWN COUNCIL
A TRUE COPY

ATTEST:


Richard M. Theroux, Town Clerk

Paid Political Ad

Paid Political Ad

Vote for Robert M. Young City Council



Candidate Young with wife Karla and twins Brooks & Brianna

- * B.S. from Springfield College
- * Involved in Youth Programs
- * Professionalism
- * Honesty
- * The People's Councilor

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at 786-8995 or 216 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills

I would appreciate your support on
November 4th
Lever 10A

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Robert M. Young

October 30, 1997

LETTERS - from Page 6...

tion of what Agawam is all about. I personally believe the same thing with this Power Plant. **Common sense** tells me to vote against it. I hope there will be many of you who feel the same way. But no matter how you feel, all of us have to make our voices heard. I ask all of you to please make the effort and vote on Election Day. Let's show Mayor Johnson that we really do care about this. As I've stated, the country is watching what we do here in Agawam, especially people in our state and those states around us. Please don't think it doesn't matter how we vote. It matters very much!! Every vote determines the fate of this town and its future. To coin a phrase, "the fat lady hasn't started singing yet!!!" Also, our government says something about "We The People." Everyone please, please vote!!

Sincerely,
Pamela Dow
Feeding Hills

P.S. Not long ago, Councilor Quatrone stated that my ballot question petition on the Power Plant was politically motivated. Well, it was politics that was trying to prevent us, as residents, from voting on the Power Plant issue. I am very happy to be the sponsor of this ballot question. I am very grateful for so many of you who have supported me. I am proud to be **politically incorrect** for caring about where I live and everyone else who also lives here.

Governor Cellucci Supports
Magovern For City Council

To The Editor:
To The Voters Of Agawam:

I urge you to support Robert Magovern's election to the Agawam City Council. I have known Bob since the beginning of the Weld/Cellucci Administration. He will be a fine councilor who will find answers to tough issues. Bob's abilities and team spirit will provide innovative leadership on the Agawam Council. Bob Magovern shares the same values as many of the people of Agawam. He supports a strong educational system financed by local business development. He has spoken to me about the Agawam Senior Center and the excellent programs furnished to the seniors of Agawam. Bob knows the importance of expanding upon these fine programs. Bob will do his best for Agawam and I urge you to elect him to the City Council.

Thank you,
Paul Cellucci
Governor

How Democratic Comm.
Endorses Candidates

To The Editor:
At a recent Democratic Town Committee meeting held on October 22nd at the Polish American Club, a discussion to endorse candidates for the upcoming election took place. The meeting was kicked off by Ms. Letellier as chairperson of the committee. She put on the table for discussion whether all Democrats running for office should be endorsed or should it only be Democrats who made it through the primary — excluding announced write-in candidates. Wally Moreno felt very strongly that all Democrats running should be endorsed. Those on the ballots as well as write-in candidates. After lengthy discussion, Mr. Russo said that Nancy Thompson and Chris Quatrone were Democrats, as well as Susan Pettazzoni, but they support the Mayor, and he felt that they should not be endorsed by the committee. Rosemary Sandlin said that local elections were non-partisan and the State Democratic Committee does not prohibit the support or endorsement of non-Democrats in local non-partisan elections. I then asked if that were true, should we have removed Nancy Thompson from the party in 1995, as a result of Mr. Russo's initiative? Ms. Sandlin said that she believed that what took place in removing Nancy Thompson from the Democratic Town Committee because she endorsed then-Republican Chris Quatrone was improper. After I heard that, I and a new member asked for copies of the charter that governs the Democratic Town Committee to ascertain what

were the rules, regulations, and proper protocol to follow in this and other situations. I had also asked for a copy of the charter a couple of months ago from the chairperson because of concerns I had regarding the role of certain Democratic Committee executive members in the CCBA, but had not received one. I was asked by Paul Trimboli what I intended to do with the charter once I received a copy of it. I told him that if the initiative spearheaded by Mr. Russo and ratified by the Committee to remove Nancy Thompson was contrary to our established rules of order, then it is only appropriate to reinstate Ms. Nancy Thompson as a member of the Democratic Town Committee and afford her an apology. As soon as I gave that response, Mr. Trimboli said that he was going to support me until I made that statement. He then made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Russo, that the Committee should only endorse those Democratic candidates who appear on the ballot AND who are members of the Committee, thus excluding Democrats such as Nancy Thompson, Chris Quatrone, Susan Pettazzoni, and myself, who is a member of the executive board of the Democratic Committee and the only announced write-in candidate for City Council. Of the 30 members of the Democratic Town Committee, only eight were in attendance for this meeting. The vote on who the committee would place in its next endorsement ad was voted on by only eight members, with Ms. Letellier abstaining,

two voting NO, and only five of the 30 members voting in favor for which candidates the committee would endorse in this election. The NO votes were from School Committee candidate Rosemary Sandlin and myself, Abe Kasparian. I was also going to address other issues at the meeting that I had been given permission, two weeks ago, to bring up on the agenda under new business by Ms. Letellier, but was now told by the Chair that since I had written a letter about her that I would not be allowed to speak. The next day, I received a message on the answering machine from Paul Trimboli stating that there was more discussion and that he had argued that I "should have the opportunity (to speak) since Gina said it, and even if she didn't say it you should still have the opportunity to address the group, which you will have I believe ... at the next meeting whenever that is." He went on to say "... there was no way that you should not have an opportunity to voice your concerns as any Democrat. You should have had the opportunity to speak what you wanted to say. That was not right." *** I have been a registered Democrat all my life. When I joined the Democratic Town Committee in Agawam two years ago, I joined to bring to the Democratic Town Committee table a perspective that would foster community spirit and involve-

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Town of Agawam — Official Ballot

TO VOTE FOR A PERSON MARK A CROSS X IN THE SQUARE

MAYOR For a term to expire on the first secular day in January of 2000 Vote for ONE	
CHRISTOPHER C. JOHNSON 88 Morningside Circle Candidate for Re-election	
KENT P. SERVIS 48 Kathy Terrace City Council President, Democrat	
CITY COUNCIL For a term to expire on the first secular day in January of 2000 Vote for ELEVEN	
STANLEY J. CHMIELEWSKI 88 Plantation Drive Retired Chief of Police, Veteran	
GINA MARIE LETELLIER 150 Maple Street Chair - Agawam Democratic Committee	
MICHAEL J. DELNEGRO 28 Losito Lane	
JILL P. SIMPSON 24 Pleasant Valley Road Candidate for Re-election	
ROBERT A. MAGOVERN 144 Birch Hill Road	
ROBERT M. YOUNG 216 South Westfield Street	
CHRISTIAN M. QUATRONE 75 Pleasant Valley Road Candidate for Re-election	
EDWARD A. CABA 198 Walnut Street Veteran, Candidate for Re-election	
PETER LONGO 236 Adams Street Veteran	
JOHN J. NEGRUCCI 35 Hayes Avenue	
DENNIS J. PERRY 466 North West Street Candidate for Re-election	
DAVID SKOLNICK 331 Rowley Street Candidate for Re-election	
NANCY E. THOMPSON 19A Mansion Woods Drive Candidate for Re-Election, Former Council President	
GARY F. GEIGER 33 Zachary Lane	
GARY E. SUFFRITI 3 Cooper Street Candidate for Re-election	
LOUIS J. RUSSO 76 Highland Street Veteran, Democrat, Various Town Boards, Offices & Committees	
JOSEPH F. LANGONE 180 Suffield Street Candidate for Re-election	
F. WILLIAM EULIANO, JR. 38 High Meadow Road Chair - Board of Health	

DONALD M. RHEAULT 536 Mill Street	
KARL H. STIEG 24 Edgewood Lane Veteran	
RONALD BROWN 224 Walnut Street	
GEORGE BITZAS 33 Fernwood Drive Candidate for Re-election	

SCHOOL COMMITTEE For a term to expire on the first secular day in January of 2000 Vote for SIX	
ROBERTA DOERING 915 River Road Candidate for Re-election	
SUSAN A. PETTAZZONI 116 Granger Drive Candidate for Re-election	
TERESA M. KOZLOSKI 102 Meadow Street Candidate for Re-election	
ROSEMARY SANDLIN 90 Granger Drive Democrat - Candidate for Re-election	
LOUIS E. MASSOIA, JR. 6 Sequoia Drive Candidate for Re-election	
LINDA GALARNEAU 24 Sycamore Terrace Candidate for Re-election	
DEBORAH J. SEKULA 274 Cooper Street	

QUESTION NO. 1
THIS QUESTION IS NON-BINDING

Should Berkshire Power construct and operate a power plant in the town of Agawam?

YES	
NO	

This "Town of Agawam — Official Ballot" is a public service of The Agawam Advertiser News.

Anthony C. Bonavita
Attorney At Law

Criminal Defense Divorce
Real Estate Closings Personal Injury

2 South Bridge Drive
Agawam
(Off Of Rte. 57 Rotary)

789-2020

LETTERS - from Page 7...

ment in the democratic process.

To bring values that would support progress and growth through the expansion of business and industry development and that would, in turn, create jobs, a strong tax base which would translate to a better quality of life, and increase funding for services in our community and for our school system so as to provide quality educational programs for the next generation.

I did not join the Democratic Town Committee to stimulate emotions of discontentment and hate or to create an atmosphere of obstructionism within the community that we all love and share together. It is unfortunate that the new leadership of the Democratic Town Committee has lost sight of its values and rather than improving in a lot of ways it has further digressed.

Regarding the requests for retractions that have been published recently by other committee member Democrats regarding the last endorsement of candidates by the committee that was published in the October 2nd edition of *The Agawam Advertiser*, it is my understanding that Mr. Russo and Ms. Letellier told *The Agawam Advertiser* News that all the names in the ad did indeed endorse all the candidates mentioned.

Although I am an executive member of the Agawam Democratic Committee, I was not consulted or informed on the format of the ad or that the ad would include all the names of the members. Therefore, I wish to extend an apology to any and all Democrats who felt that their name had not been used properly and that in the future it is my hope that no ad would ever be released using people's names without their permission.

It is based on the response to the previous endorsement ad of the Democratic Town Committee by committee members that I felt compelled to write this account of this past meeting so that all documents, committee members, and voters will know the discussion, criteria, and the vote which led to the committee's decision on which candidates will be appearing in our next endorsement advertisement.

It certainly appears to me that the endorsements for council and mayor by the Democratic Town Committee are not based on party line but are clearly based on the candidates' anti-Berkshire Power views. This has been my growing concern for the last six months as an executive board member, a concern that I have shared with the other executive board members who are also members of the CCBA (anti-Berkshire Power movement group).

The focus has been to get the candidates in office who will keep Berkshire Power out of Agawam and to treat the candidates who have a different opinion as enemies whether they are a Democrat or not. This, I believe, is totally contrary to the goals of the Democratic Town Committee and I cannot condone this type of behavior.

Abe Kasparian
Executive board member of the
Democratic Town Committee
Write-in candidate for City Council

Berkshire Power Never Has Been A Good Neighbor

To The Editor:

A television news item last week made it painfully evident that Berkshire Power has never had any interest in being a "good neighbor," or living up to any of its claims of "not going where it is not wanted," by announcing that it would not abide by the results of the upcoming ballot referendum on its useless project.

It appears that this is another in a long list of dirty tricks being played by a greedy, vicious entity bent on getting its way at all costs. These tricks have included making apparently false representations of goodwill to the people of Agawam, omitting significant project design features and problems in advertisements to the general public and media, ignoring our town zoning laws, apparently coercing several of our seemingly corrupt town politicians, reneging on promises, filing

harassing lawsuits against opposing townspeople and businessmen, and generally trying to intimidate anyone who effectively stands up to them.

One has to question whether Berkshire Power is attempting to quell the growing resentment against their infernal project by discouraging voters from voting against them on Election Day. Unfortunately, with all of the broken promises and false "good neighborliness," if not outright lies, from this invader, we have to be concerned that such is the attempt.

Sadly, Berkshire Power could have saved themselves time, trouble, and money if they had been honest, and their pet politicians had not disrupted a ballot referendum in 1995. It even appears that they have been led on by politicians who apparently have been out for themselves rather than the town's interests. On the other hand, it is telling that Berkshire Power has only attempted to sue outspoken opponents rather than those same self-seeking politicians.

At this point, no matter what the intentions are of this invasive, manipulative corporate interest, we, the voters of Agawam, should still vote the Berkshire Power project down. We have already won the moral victory of having them show their true colors. By rejecting Berkshire Power at the polls, we win again, especially if we also turn out those politicians who have sided with Berkshire Power against the interests of the town and people of Agawam.

By voting against this nefarious project, we also disprove the mistruth made by our poor Mayor, Chris Johnson, to state officials in 1995 that the entire town was behind this project. This project is still entangled in the courts, and the issue is still not satisfactorily resolved.

Our objection made at the polls adds to OUR argument that WE do not want to be exploited or manipulated by greedy outside corporate interests or by the politicians who aid and abet them.

Rob Keenan
Agawam

Newspaper Article Tell Us All About Mayor Johnson

To The Editor:

To The Townspeople:

With immense pleasure, the Taxpayers for Positive Change Political Action Committee (TPCPAC) would like to refer the reader to this past *Springfield Advocate* of 10/21/97.

It is our belief that Stephanie Kraft's latest report re: our Mayor confirms what our Treasurer has alleged now for many years: that our Mayor's tenure has been unethical at best, and in no way "responsive to the people" as the Mayor has disingenuously claimed.

We hope that Agawam readers will refer to this article, which can also be viewed from the website <http://www.springfieldadvocate.com>. We trust that Ms. Kraft's report contains ample information to persuade an objective reader to reject our Mayor's candidacy.

For what Ms. Kraft has revealed is that our Mayor has pushed the Berkshire Power project at all costs, including any sense of common decency.

cy. He has behaved in a tyrannical fashion, lashing out at any who would oppose him, including everyday citizens entitled to far better treatment from Agawam's office of the Mayor.

While Berkshire Power threatens the homes and livelihoods of parents and business owners, our Mayor plays the fiddle as Nero did with Rome on fire. He has never risen to the defense of these residents, but is contemptuous of them, even calling the demand that they sacrifice their First Amendment rights a "settlement."

He has never condemned the SLAPP suit against them, he refers to them as "absolute losers" and "liars," and his "invitation" to Berkshire Power has even threatened their property values. This is how he treats your neighbors. This is how he treats your friends.

His behavior towards other public officials, and even City Councilors, has been extreme and uncalled for. He not only refers to political opponents as "buffoons," but would also apparently have Board of Appeals Chairman Ron Hebert perjure himself, terms the present City Council "incompetent," and falsely has accused two City Council candidates of being "vicious."

I personally cannot imagine any more vicious statements than those that escape our Mayor's lips, and his name-calling certainly casts doubts on how well he can improve communication between our Town's agencies, the Mayor office, and City Council.

Of course, our Mayor has never made a practice of such cooperation and communication he pretends to stand for. Having had ample advance knowledge of the 7/10/96 hearing in Northampton, he did apparently withhold that information in order to create an "emergency" that would "compel" him to step in.

He misrepresented the ZBA's position, and directly compromised the values of people's homes by trying to deny them intervenor status. He strong-armed agency heads and City Councilors into supporting the project so that he could claim unanimous town support, even though the City Council never once approved of it. He never took issue with Berkshire Power's lawsuit against our Town, and apparently demanded that Town attorneys waive discovery so that our sham defense would be sabotaged.

Mayor Johnson would even have citizens believe electricity can be "manufactured" as any car might, because he could care less if Berkshire Power pays their fair portion of taxes. He has threatened to shut down city services over paltry budget disputes; he has threatened a town agency's vital work because Ron Hebert apparently refused to perjure himself in a document; and he has even asserted that a "minority decision" and "majority decision" could somehow mystically be found in the ZBA's refusal to grant a special permit.

Indeed, our Mayor not only misrepresented the ZBA stance re: intervention of abutters, but compelled such intervention because he had apparently given instruction to Town attorneys in a prior hearing to misrepresent ZBA requirements to grant that special permit.

Our method of defending ourselves against the lawsuit apparently was to make Berkshire Power's case for them - by neglecting to tell the

SEE LETTERS - Page 10...



JOHNSON FOR MAYOR



Paid Political Ad

Paid Political Ad

*The Committee to Re-Elect Chris Johnson
cordially invites you to attend a*

HAM & BEAN DINNER

Saturday November 1, 1997

4:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.

at the

POLISH AMERICAN CLUB

139 Southwick Street

Feeding Hills, MA

Donation \$5.00 adults / \$3.00 children under 12

Tickets available by calling Anna at 786-6297 or at the door



Re-Elect

Chris Johnson
MAYOR

Please Vote on Tuesday, November 4th

Paid for by the Committee to Re-Elect Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor

BLOCK
JEWELERS

NEW
HOURS Mon.-Fri. 9 To 5
Sat. 9 To 1
South End Bridge Circle
(River Road)
Agawam, MA 789-2940

Paid Political Ad

Paid Political Ad

Because The Siting Process Assumed You Want A Power Plant:

BERKSHIRE POWER

wants you to believe your vote on November 4th is useless!

IN FACT, YOUR VOTE COULD END THE MENACE

- Berkshire Power could lose on appeal if the community rejects them
- Berkshire Power could lose on appeal if the Mayor supports you
- Berkshire Power could lose on appeal if your City Council backs you

BOSTON COULD OVERTURN THE DPU

***But everything depends on how
you vote on November 4th!***

- THAT IS WHY WE NEED YOU TO VOTE AGAINST THEM
- VOTE AGAINST THE PEOPLE WHO BULLY YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS
- VOTE AGAINST THE WASTEFUL DOUBLING OF OUR CITY WATER USE
- VOTE AGAINST THEIR LAWSUITS AGAINST YOUR FRIENDS AND OUR TOWN
- VOTE AGAINST THE PICKETING AND BOYCOTTS OF OUR BUSINESSES
- VOTE AGAINST POLLUTION AND THEIR STORAGE OF OIL ON PREMISES
- VOTE AGAINST THEIR REFUSAL TO PAY THEIR FAIR PORTION OF TAXES

THE FOLLOWING CANDIDATES HAVE PUBLICLY SUPPORTED THE TAXPAYER

- By Supporting Ample Water, Clean Air, For Your Town
- By Supporting The Fair Payment of Taxes By City Businesses
- By Supporting The First Amendment Rights of All Residents
- By Supporting The Preservation of Our Small Town Character
- By Supporting The Defense of Our City Zoning Laws

FOR MAYOR: Kent P. Servis

FOR CITY COUNCIL:

**Dennis Perry, Donald Rheault, Edward Caba, David Skolnick
Joe Langone, Michael Del Negro, Louis Russo, Peter Longo
Karl Stieg, Gina Marie Letellier, Gary Suffriti**

**They Stood Up For You,
So Let Us Vote For Them!**

Paid for by Taxpayers for Positive Change Political Action Committee
Owen Broadhurst, Treasurer

Save The Town's Water Supply

LETTERS - from Page 8...

court that a unanimous ZBA decision was required. Abutters were required to file a motion to correct our Town attorney's failure to represent the Board of Appeals adequately, but even then our Mayor himself appeared so that he could personally misrepresent the ZBA. His appearance was no defense at all, but apparently designed to help Berkshire Power WIN their lawsuit. Apparently, Town citizens cannot even depend on our Mayor to defend their property rights and biggest investments.

Our Mayor, naturally, claims Mr. Hebert informed him of a ZBA stance against abutters' rights, but no such ZBA vote was ever taken. Our Mayor claims that it was quite proper for him to take Mr. Hebert at his word, although such word was probably never given and our Mayor now tries to defame him.

Even if the Mayor was accurate in reporting Mr. Hebert's alleged conversation with him, however, the Mayor's office is well equipped to keep abreast of ZBA decisions. If our Mayor does not, in fact, review such decisions, as the Mayor himself has suggested, then our Mayor could only be described as incompetent. TPCPAC is also willing to take Mr. Hebert at his word, and all of his words on public record directly contradict our Mayor. Certainly, the ZBA's own records suggest no reason for the Mayor to believe the ZBA made any such decision re: abutters, and our Mayor has the legal and moral obligation to read those records.

If it is true that he never consulted those records, as he himself has suggested, then he provided our Town no service and violated abutters' rights on a whim. That could only be described as immoral behavior that ought to be condemned. We believe that every resident has rights, and we believe it is morally wrong for public officials to compromise those rights.

We believe a Mayoral candidate exists who will execute that office ethically. Mayor candidate Kent Servis is an upright, moral, honest, and ethical candidate who will support a truly democratic and open government in an environmentally responsible fashion.

Anyone familiar with how he conducts himself as Council President could certainly vouch for his fair-mindedness, level-headedness, professionalism, and civility. He will execute his oath of office with honor.

Sincerely yours,
Owen R. Broadhurst
Treasurer, TPCPAC

Agawam/Feeding Hills AARP Urges Townspeople To Vote

To The Editor:

The Agawam/Feeding Hills Chapter of AARP wants you to vote. If you don't vote, you have no right to complain about who gets elected.

How Important Is One Vote?

In 1645, one vote gave Oliver Cromwell control of England.

In 1649, one vote caused Charles I of England to be executed.

In 1776, one vote gave America the English language instead of German.

In 1845, one vote brought Texas into the Union.

In 1868, one vote saved President Andrew Johnson from impeachment.

In 1875, one vote changed France from a monarchy to a republic.

In 1876, one vote gave Rutherford B. Hayes the presidency of the United States.

In 1923, one vote gave Adolf Hitler leadership of the Nazi Party.

In 1941, one vote saved Selective Service—just weeks before Pearl Harbor was attacked.

Ann Landers Writes For Creators Syndicate

DPU Ruling Is A Travesty For Our Community

To The Editor:

In the past week, we have learned that the Department of Public Utilities overturned our zoning laws in favor of Berkshire Power. We can thank Councilors Bitzas, Quatrone, Thompson, and Simpson, with Mayor Johnson, for allowing

such a travesty and injustice to occur. It is they who broke their oaths of office and refused to protect our laws against such an occurrence.

Now Berkshire Power is trying to use the DPU decision to influence our elections by trying to convince the voters that there is nothing more that can be done to stop them. If such is the case, why are they spending thousands trying to convince you not to vote on something that no longer matters? They are far from victorious because there will be an appeal based on fact and not on the false information BP gave to the DPU.

As anyone who watched last week's public hearing and read this week's Berkshire flier knows that, based on Ken Roberts' statements, what was stated in the flier is not true. For example, at the public hearing, Roberts was finally forced to tell the truth and admit that BP cannot provide us with cheaper electricity as stated in their flier. It's against the law. Also in the flier, BP states they will produce electricity for 3.9 cents a kilowatt. So what? If everyone will look at their electric bill, they will see that they are paying far less for electricity than BP can produce it.

Going back to the DPU's decision. If you read

the DPU's decision, one of the criteria used in their decision is that the Town of Agawam overwhelmingly supports Berkshire Power. Even BP's supporters know that is not true given that the City Council has consistently voted against Berkshire Power and the entire voting population of Agawam has yet to vote on the issue. Mayor Johnson has again shown that he doesn't care what the people of Agawam want and Ken Roberts has again shown that his word means nothing.

At a recent televised debate, Johnson was asked if he would support our citizens if they vote against Berkshire Power. His answer was no. At the public hearing when Ken Roberts was asked if he would keep his word and do the honorable thing and leave if the vote goes against BP, Roberts also refused. Given these facts, and given that Roberts and Johnson don't care what the people of Agawam want, we should show them that we are not going to allow them to dictate to us and control our community without our consent.

SEE LETTERS - Page 12...

Paid Political Ad

Paid Political Ad

★★★ PLEASE VOTE ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4th ★★★

In the midst of the bickering and confusion
on the Agawam City Council,
CHRIS QUATRONE
has been a voice of reason and
responsibility for the people of Agawam.

VOTED FOR 2 TOWN BUDGETS WITH NO TAX INCREASES

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

VOTED TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF POLICE OFFICERS

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

VOTED TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF FIREFIGHTER/EMTs

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

VOTED TO SUPPORT THE NEW STATE VETERANS CEMETERY

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

VOTED TO APPROVE SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

VOTED TO STOP ILLEGAL GAMBLING ON VIDEO POKER




Chris
Quatrone

City Council

A Voice of Reason
& Responsibility

Paid for by the Citizens for Christian M. Quatrone

 A Clean Fireplace
Is A Safe Fireplace

(413) 789-7345

CHIMNEY CLEANING CAPPING

American Home Safety Co.
Feeding Hills

Tom Fortier
Equipped By August West Systems

Win A
Free Chimney Cleaning
Through November 30th
Call For Free Inspection

Paid Political Ad

Paid Political Ad

AFTER THREE LONG YEARS..... THE FINAL ROUND.

Some people believe that you need a pair of *these* to settle issues and that a public debate should really be more like a public brawl.

It's too bad that issues can't always be decided on the facts. Especially when the facts are provided by experts testifying under oath for hundreds of hours before regulatory agencies - agencies that could take those expert's licenses away from them if they don't tell the truth.

You are probably as tired of this public fight as we are. We were proud to receive a positive response from the City of Agawam to build the Berkshire Power Plant in your industrial park. The park was appropriately zoned and we met every challenge.

We met with and won the approvals of every local, state, and federal board to earn the many environmental approvals needed to build this plant. We voluntarily went through the public process. Probably more so than any gas power plant built in the nation.

We understand now that Agawam's politics are a bit unique. That's all right. After a lot of tough, bruising rounds in the ring, where opponents often got personal, we still want to call Agawam home. We intend to be a good neighbor for a long time.

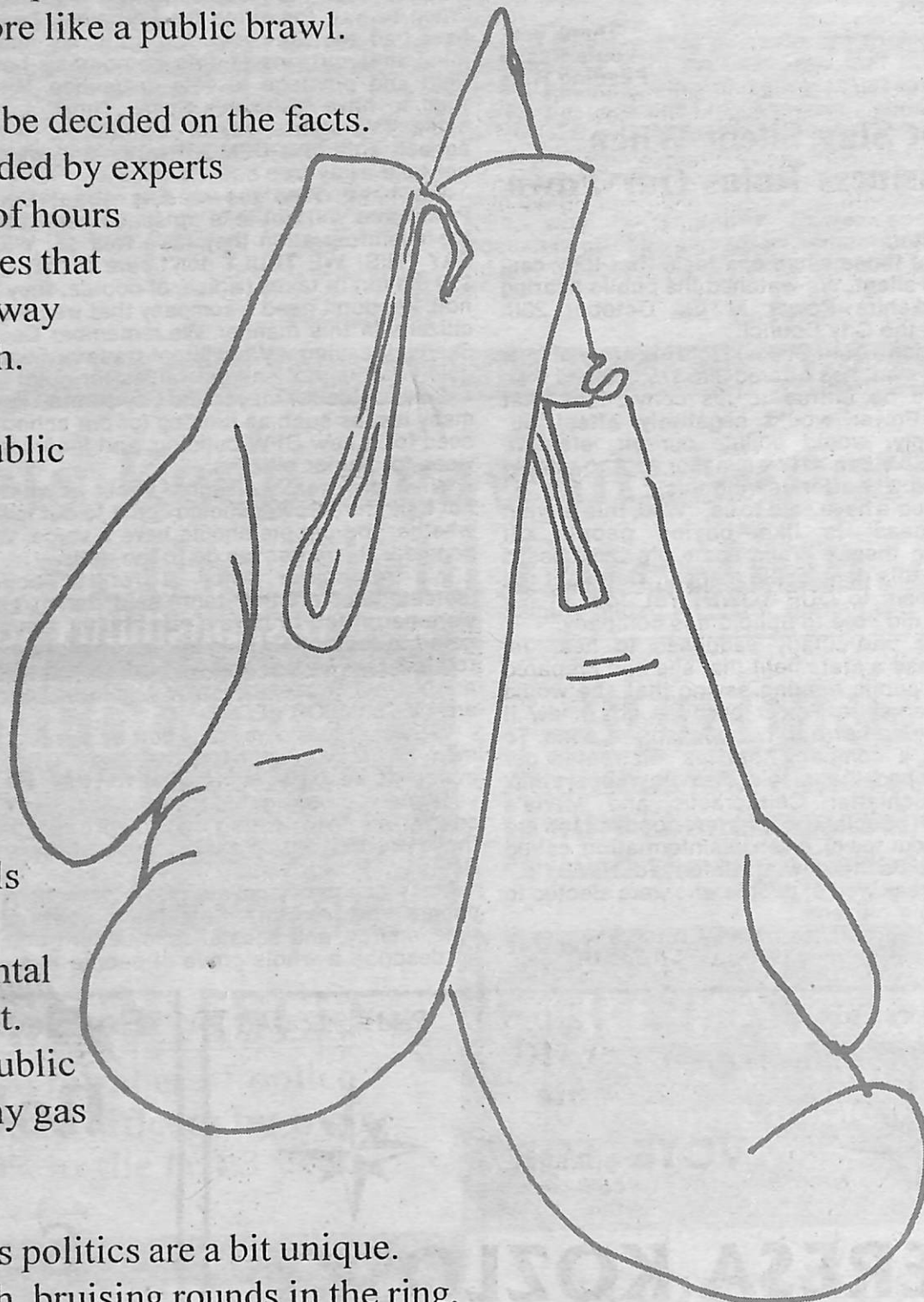
We may have won our approvals. But we still want one more. Yours. We know this has been a long and confusing battle. We hope you'll be able to decide how to vote on Tuesday by weighing the facts.

We have worked hard to prove to you that Berkshire Power will be a clean and efficient source of needed, low cost energy to the region. We have also worked hard to show that we would be a good neighbor over the last three years, helping to fund local school athletics supporting other local civic groups and causes, and being more than open about our purpose. Tucked away in Agawam's Industrial Park, you shouldn't even know that we are there.

We hope that you will consider voting Yes on Question One this Tuesday. We would appreciate your support. We look forward to being part of Agawam's future.

PLEASE VOTE YES ON QUESTION ONE

Paid for by Berkshire Power



LETTERS - from Page 10...

There will be an appeal, possibly several, regarding the DPU decision to override local zoning because the DPU used criteria that is non-existent or might exist in the future. In short, their decision was not based on fact, but on provable falsehoods and nonexistent law.

Therefore, don't let Berkshire Power convince you they have won so you won't vote against Question No. 1. The facts show that the importance of your vote is greater than ever and must be exercised.

Thank you,
Louis Russo
Feeding Hills

Cannot Stay Silent When Big Business Ruins Our Town

To The Editor:

There are times when one feels that they cannot remain silent. We watched the public hearing about Berkshire Power at the October 20th meeting of the City Council.

We listened as Mr. Cucovia told his story of how Berkshire Power has offered him \$75,000 and then \$100,000 to be untrue to his convictions that Berkshire Power would negatively affect our water supply, would pollute our air, etc. We thought, "How can ANY councilor vote to uphold Berkshire Power after hearing this?"

A few people have said to us, "Well, this is what 'big business' is like—buying people off—threatening them." While some big businesses may act in this despicable manner, we ought not to invite them to OUR TOWN! Yet, four of our councilors did vote to uphold this company.

We were particularly saddened to hear Jill Simpson read a statement that she had prepared before the public hearing saying that she would vote for Berkshire Power because she knew it would bring no harm to her husband or sons. To stand with a company that has mistreated our citizens (bribed them, told them to "keep still," picketed Schlaffer Chiropractic and Maria's Restaurant - people who for every good reason are admired in our town), given misinformation, called the opponents "a few misinformed NIMBY's," does not speak well of people who were elected to represent our citizens.

It is our heartfelt feeling that when any one of us is hurt and harmed, WE ALL ARE HURT AND

HARMED! What kind of role model would WE be if we did not care about the environment or the needs of fellow citizens?

We have always respected other people and their right to their own opinion if they have shown that they have done the research to back that opinion.

This is a bigger issue than "Berkshire Power." The backers of this plant have not shown respect for the citizens. We are not moved by Mr. Bitzas now saying that he got the message at the last election that the people wanted a referendum. When he ran for office the first time, he should have had the fact engraved upon his heart and mind that citizens in this democracy have the right and privilege to vote on issues. When he tried to have "Citizen's Speak Time" taken off cable TV, shortened, or eliminated, we were aghast. This IS a DEMOCRACY—and we should not take away free speech.

We have done the reading about Berkshire Power and will not take up space here telling all the misinformation they have told us. WE WILL SAY THIS! WE TRULY don't care if they give us \$50 million in taxes (which, of course, they would not). We don't need a company that treats upright citizens in this manner. We remember Councilor Skolnick saying, "We will not trade our water for gold!" Let us not sell our values for gold!

Candidates for mayor and city council agree on many issues such as funding for our schools, the need for a new DPW building, and increased services for senior citizens.

What they really disagree about is whether or not Berkshire Power should come to our town and whether the people should have a voice. We will consider this when we go to the polls.

We remember when a former councilor (defeated for another term) said that if citizens were permitted to have a referendum, the people going to the polls would be "an uninformed electorate." The people that we have talked with who are against Berkshire Power coming to our town are WELL-INFORMED.

We were most personally hurt by a recent statement by Mayor Johnson that the CCBA is "a bunch of absolute losers who for the last eight years have promulgated lie after lie." There is no one in this town whom we would describe with those words, regardless of their stand on the Berkshire Power issue.

Many of the opponents of the power plant are people who have given again and again of their time, energy, and substance to benefit this town. To describe a whole group of people this way is

unconscionable.

We have NEVER, NEVER before had anyone accuse either of us as being an "absolute loser—who would promulgate lie after lie. We are thankful for the students whose lives we were privileged to touch—modeling for them respect and love for others. We know that the world will be a better place because of each of them.

We will be voting for Kent Servis for mayor. We firmly believe that he would NEVER demean people in this way. We will also be voting for candidates for the council who have shown that they respect the citizens. We would urge others to think about what we have written as they make their decisions about who to elect to public office. LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!

We both love Agawam. The people we have come to know since we moved here in 1968 have been a "family" to us in many, many ways! We would like to say "Thank You!" to the many Agawam people who have been supportive in every way—in every circumstance! This is a heartfelt feeling that we often express as circumstances in our lives change!

Many times we have thought about writing to *The Advertiser News*, but this is the first time that we have. Let us work together to keep our town the wonderful, caring place that it is—and, again, we are sure that you agree that when one person is demeaned, we are ALL diminished!

Respectfully,
Ann Mary Bradford
Wesley E. Bradford

"Truth In Politics" Group Receives Response On Letter

To The Editor:

It is refreshing to know that the "Truth In Politics" folks are asking some questions and seeking truthful answers. Maybe I can help.

Regarding last week's *AAN* and Gina Letellier: future councilor Letellier is **not nor ever was** a member of the CCBA. She last represented the CCBA, the citizens of Agawam, in court on July 10, 1996. The same day, Mayor Johnson showed up in court to argue **against** the citizens of Agawam.

But, let's not get into that. Gina Letellier last received payment from the CCBA months before

SEE LETTERS - Page 13...

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VOTE FOR



TERESA KOZLOSKI

SCHOOL COMMITTEE



- ⇒ Chairperson of Goals and Objectives Committee
- ⇒ Member of Policy Committee
- ⇒ Member of Alliance Anchor Committee
- ⇒ Member of Sub-Committee on Teaming
- ⇒ Full-time Teacher
- ⇒ Graduate of Agawam School System
- ⇒ Degrees from AIC, New York University, UMass
- ⇒ Parent of three Agawam Graduates

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Teresa Kozloski.

Re-Elect

Re-Elect

Roberta G. Doering for School Committee



Pull
Lever
29 A

Pull
Lever
29 A

"I believe the most important goal that we have is trying to give all students the necessary tools for learning — the capacity to read, write, communicate, and comprehend.

"We should aim for turning out young women and men with a broad view of history, an understanding of mathematics and science, and a sense of the economic, social, and legal issues which affect life today."

Dedicated • Experienced • Qualified

Paid for by Dr. James A. Doering
915 River Road

Paid Political Ad

Paid Political Ad

LETTERS - from Page 12...

that date. As far as your question as to how much the CCBA spent, well, my questions to you are, why do you want to know, and what difference does it make?

Have you ever heard of attorney/client privilege? Gina-Maria Letellier has not worked for nor been paid by the CCBA for over 15 months.

Now, who is Don Rheault, you ask? Future councilor Don Rheault is the past president of the Agawam Town Council, serving in that position for seven years. No other council president has served longer. Don Rheault is probably the premiere parliamentarian that the Town Council has ever had serving on the council for 14 years.

If "Truth in Politics" is truly what you are seeking, two components are absolutely necessary...facts and evidence. Again, it's refreshing to know that you are seeking the truth. I am happy to supply the components.

Sincerely,
Sandi Forni
Agawam

his campaign for the Agawam City Council.

Born and raised in Agawam, Bob comes from a family which recognizes the value of education. From his mother, a long-time teacher in the Agawam School System to his sister who carries on the family tradition of teaching, Bob has seen first-hand the permanent impact that a good education will have on a child's future and quality of life.

I am confident that with Bob on the City Council, education will not take a back seat to other Town functions. The schools will get the funding they need to provide our children with the best education possible and send them on to college and the workplace fully prepared.

I'm voting for Bob Magovern and Bill Euliano because they represent the independence and professionalism that the current council lacks. Our chance as voters to make a difference comes every two years. Let's not miss our opportunity to bring civility back to the Town Council and to move the Town forward.

Very truly yours,
Robert J. Danie
Feeding Hills

Your Vote Counts - Please Vote "No" On Question 1

To The Editor:

Please vote NO on question 1. "Should Berkshire Power construct and operate a power plant in the Town of Agawam?"

The Department of Public Utilities assumed our town wants this polluting, drinking water guzzler power plant from information received from Berkshire Power. It clearly indicated in the D.P.U.'s decision they overrode our zoning laws because they were led to believe that have the general public approval and government approval.

We, the citizens of Agawam, should be OUTRAGED with Berkshire Power for giving inaccurate information to the D.P.U. when, in fact, the City Council voted no and the citizens have not been heard.

So, why is Berkshire Power spending thousands of dollars in advertisements, and why did they give the pro-plant group \$12,500? Why are

SEE LETTERS - Page 14...

Primary Election Results Give Us Hope For Our Future

To The Editor:

The results of the recent primary election give hope to us who have always believed that we could elect a City Council that would work with the Mayor to move the Town of Agawam in a positive direction.

Some of the top vote-getters were those councilors who have been willing to listen to the Mayor's proposals and to consider the merit of each on an individual basis, as opposed to those who for reasons of ego or partisan politics, choose to act as obstructionists to every positive proposal put forth.

Although the primary results were indeed encouraging, there are other council candidates who would make a strong positive contribution to the council and would go a long way toward bringing to the people of the Town of Agawam the quality of representation they have always deserved, but have not always received.

Specifically, the Town of Agawam would benefit from the level-headed and mature leadership of candidates Robert Magovern and William Euliano. Both of these candidates have shown an ability to tackle tough jobs and make difficult decisions. They possess the intelligence and courage to do what is best for the Town of Agawam.

It is sad to say, but all of the people of Agawam must bear some responsibility for the embarrassing displays we have seen from some of our councilors, as election after election we vote for those who believe that the separation of powers means that the two branches of government must be antagonistic to one another. We can disagree without reducing every issue to name calling and personal attacks.

On November 4th, we have the opportunity to change the way the Town's business is conducted and to elect a council of which we can be proud. Robert Magovern and William Euliano are men of courage and commitment who will prove that character does count and who will help develop a legislative branch of the government in which we can be proud.

As a long time member of the Board of Health, Bill Euliano has been quietly serving on the front lines to ensure the health and quality of life of the citizens of Agawam. When the incinerator was being proposed for Bondi's Island, Bill dedicated months of his life to learning all that he could about the dangers that an incinerator could pose, and worked tirelessly to be certain that the incinerator was as safe as the then current technology would allow.

During the very contentious hearings over the construction of the incinerator, Bill showed the cool professionalism which has been lacking from the council. We need that kind of courage, commitment and leadership on our Town Council.

As a parent of two school age children, I realize now more than ever that one of the principal functions of town government is to educate its citizens. An educated citizenry will pay dividends much greater than the cost of the education. That's why I was so encouraged to see that Robert Magovern has made education a cornerstone of

★ ★ ★ PLEASE VOTE ON TUESDAY NOVEMBER 4TH ★ ★ ★

Paid Political Ad

Paid Political Ad

Lets Keep Agawam Moving in the Right Direction**REDUCED**

Property Taxes
in the last
2 fiscal years

BUILDING

Additions and Renovations
to all 4 Elementary Schools
and the High School

INCREASED

the number of police
patrol officers by over
10% in the last 3 years

RE-PAVED

25% of Agawam's
streets in the
last 5 years

BUILT

the new
Agawam Fire Headquarters
on Main Street

IMPROVED

Agawam's Bond Rating
from
BBB to A+

PRESERVED

400 Acres of Open Space
Tuckahoe Turf Farm &
Agawam Municipal Golf Course

BROUGHT

12 new businesses to the
Agawam Regional
Industrial Park



Re-Elect

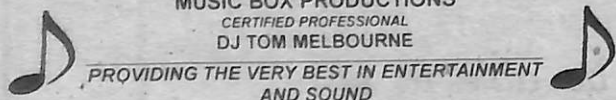
**Chris Johnson
Mayor**

Please Vote On Tuesday, November 4th

Paid for by the Committee To Re-Elect Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor

DISC JOCKEY SERVICE

MUSIC BOX PRODUCTIONS
CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL
DJ TOM MELBOURNE



PROVIDING THE VERY BEST IN ENTERTAINMENT
AND SOUND

- COMPLETE AND CURRENT MUSIC LIBRARY
- PROFESSIONAL SOUND SYSTEM
- HIGH ENERGY LIGHT SHOW (upon request)
- CROWD MOTIVATING DANCES
- PARTY PROPS. AND MUCH MORE!

(413)-789-6788

LETTERS - from Page 13...

they still fighting so hard if they have everything in place to build and are ready to dig in December?

Berkshire Power, on one hand, will lead you to believe the fight is over, and on the other hand, is clearly stating they need your vote now because they misrepresented us to the D.P.U.

The D.P.U.'s decision will be appealed in court. Your vote NO will have a great impact on the appeal. Now is the time to be positive, to fight back and save our community!

YOUR VOTE COUNTS! PLEASE VOTE NO!

Sincerely,
Judy Stieg
Agawam

Let's Stop The "Charade"; Vote No On Power Plant

To The Editor:

The Golden Fleece: Berkshire is now confronted with the fact that the council voted to reject their bid to locate in Agawam. They have used a letter from the mayor with signatures from councilors and other appointed officials as a ploy to mislead the Department of Public Utilities into believing that they had full community support, which was the furthest from the truth.

Now comes the day of reckoning — November 4th, Election Day — and our opportunity to vote on this issue to let them know that they are not welcome by the true voice of the people. Berkshire Power would like to convince you to support them by spending big money with full-page ads each day before the election (about \$2,000 per page; six days, \$12,000-plus). They are attempting to buy the Election, as you can well see.

Is this Town for sale? It's up to you and I to get out and vote, or that's exactly what will happen. Berkshire is trying to convince you that they are going to emit clean pollution out of their smokestack; now, isn't that absurd? Next, they will try to convince us that it will be pure oxygen.

They are attempting to resort to using smoke and mirrors to deceive you into believing what nice people they are. Well, nice people don't sue their neighbors or go where they are not wanted. They want you to believe they have the green light to build.

Don't believe it. There is a 30-day appeal period, and it will happen.

Only you and I can stop this charade by going to the polls and vote on Election Day.

VOTE NO ON QUESTION NUMBER ONE.

See you there,
Peter Longo
Agawam

Former Candidate Supports Many For Town Council

To The Editor:

I would like to thank all the voters who supported me in the primary. Unfortunately, it wasn't enough. I would hope all of you would vote in the November 4th election. I do not presume to tell anyone who to vote for, but I would ask all of the citizens of Agawam and Feeding Hills to vote for the people I will be voting for.

For the office of Mayor, I will be voting for Kent Servis. I think Kent is a very honest and forthright individual. I think he will bring unity, stability, and integrity where it is truly needed; back to the office of mayor. Pull Lever 2A.

For the office of City Council, my first vote will be cast for Edward A. Caba. He is one of the best. He does the job of City Councilor. I have never not received an answer from him on any question that I have asked. I have personally seen the effort he puts into the job of City Councilor. He does his homework and he is truly an asset to this community. He has proven time and time again that he is willing to go the extra yard for the citizens of our good community. Please pull Lever 12A.

My second vote will go to Stanley J. Chmielewski. I will be the first to admit, I am prejudiced when it comes to Stanley. I believe Mr. Chmielewski will make a fine City Councilor. He has a college education and a fine background in public service. I also believe Stanley will be fair and impartial when it comes to making a decision. Please pull Lever 5A.

I think back when I was a child going through the Phelps School. At that age, my father was very ill. He had a heart problem. It seems my father was always in and out of the hospital. When you are that young and you don't fully understand why things happen, you become scared/afraid.

Then I saw Stanley at school one day; this commanding human being. He wasn't mean, he was friendly and easy to talk to. I stopped being afraid.

In the future, when things would frighten me, all I really had to do was think about Mr. Chmielewski. I felt safe. Not knowing any other police officers, I felt that if I had to call one, someone like Stanley would show up.

Over the years, I have had the privilege and honor of getting to know him. He may have a very commanding presence, but he has the heart of a lamb. I trust him impeccably. And yes, today, when I think of him, I still FEEL SAFE. Please pull Lever 5A.

In addition to those two fine City Council candidates, I will be voting for Michael Del Negro (Lever 7A); Gary E. Suffriti (Lever 19A); Karl H. Stieg (Lever 24A); Dennis J. Perry (Lever 15A); Donald M. Rheault (Lever 23A); David Skolnick (Lever 16A); Joseph F. Langone (Lever 21A); Gina Marie Letellier (Lever 6A); and Peter Longo (Lever 13A).

On the question of the power plant, this issue is about so many different things. I don't think it would be fair of me to try and say for one reason alone it should be rejected.

For me, it was the Board of Appeals. They convened, heard the evidence, and then voted not to allow it. A few days later, in executive session at City Hall, the Board of Appeals agreed for a sum of \$50 not to fight their decision in court.

I look back at how I was raised. My parents taught me that this kind of action was not right.

My religion taught me this type of action was wrong. I believe we should reject Question No. 1 because it is the right thing to do. If we do not, then what lesson do we hand down to the next generation? Do we say that this is how we operate now? Or do we say, 'Sold' to the highest bidder? I hope not.

Loren Montagna
Agawam

Berkshire Power Is Indeed Agawam's White Elephant

To The Editor:

My husband and I have worked and lived in Agawam for almost 20 years now. Our daughter, Erica, was raised here.

We care about our community just as much as any other resident here in Agawam or Feeding Hills. We have always paid our taxes, both commercial and residential, and have donated to a

SEE LETTERS - Page 16...

Paid Political Ad

Paid Political Ad

Re-Elect

Linda Galarneau

School Committee

- Time & Learning Committee
- District Learning Team
- Senior High Accreditation
- Superintendent Search Committee
- System-Wide Pupil/Personnel Review



Re-Elect

Involved - Dedicated - Experienced

"I have had the honor of serving our students and community for the past eight years.

"During that time, our schools have moved forward and have experienced progressive educational change.

"With your vote on November 4th, I will not only be able to see through the completion of work already started, but to also continue the work necessary in order to bring our schools to a higher level of learning and shared decision-making."

Paid for by Linda Galarneau for School Committee

Our Schools, Our Children..... Our Future.



Ms. Michele Shepard, Agawam teacher and parent.

We all want our children to get the absolute best education possible. As a teacher in Agawam and a mom, I am concerned about our schools and the challenges that our children face in getting the best quality education we can give them.

That's why I am voting **Yes on Question One**. I see the need for the *millions of dollars in revenues* that the Berkshire Power Plant means for Agawam. And as a *taxpayer*, I love the idea that money our schools need could be coming from their project - *and their pocket*.

We've all been working hard to make Agawam Schools the best for our kids. I believe the money that Berkshire Power **will** be paying Agawam is the *insurance policy* our kids need for the future.

I didn't know very much about the project when it was first proposed, but I have done my homework. This project and its in-lieu of tax agreement, will mean more than a million dollars a year in revenues to Agawam. Increasing 3% each year for 40 years. That's more than 33 million dollars in just the first 20 years, money we can use for our schools and other vital services like police and fire.

The plant will create **hundreds of jobs**, maybe even for some of the kids in our schools. It will keep our **electric bills and property taxes low**.

An agreement with Agawam's Zoning Board means that the plant will also be paying an additional 7.4 million dollars to Agawam. This is in **addition** to the lieu-of-tax agreement.

Teachers and parents need to be concerned with *more* than just reading and arithmetic. So when I learned that the plant, will more than meet all the environmental and safety standards beyond the year 2000, and will be cleaner than today's plants; I thought, "**Why in the world would we want to turn this down? Will we ever have an opportunity like this again?**" That's why my family and I are voting Yes on Question One.

**PLEASE VOTE YES ON
QUESTION ONE.**

Paid for by Berkshire Power Co.

LETTERS - from Page 14...

long list of organizations, causes, and school programs, etc., over the years like many other small businesses in our town. We, however, have never taken out an ad to announce why we feel we are an asset to our town.

It has been difficult reading comments over the last few years that we, as members of the CCBA, are self-serving, reactionary, and have only political motivation. Recently in the *Valley Advocate* we were called "losers."

I served on the board of the Agawam Chamber of Commerce for almost five years helping promote our BEAUTIFUL, LIGHT INDUSTRIAL PARK. My husband is a past Rotarian. We are not anti-business and have never felt the need to fight any business or industry that has come to our town.

When we initially heard about Berkshire's plans to build here and that the residents didn't have a say in the decision, we did some investigating on our own. My husband visited a number of plants around the state to actually see what a power plant was all about and what kind of impact it would have on our home, business, and our community.

At that time, we felt that if Berkshire Power would build a re-cooling facility, we would be less likely to oppose its construction. We were told that it wasn't even a consideration. If a technology exists that would use dramatically small quantities of fresh drinking water, produce less pollution, and have less impact on our environment and communities, then why not use it? Fresh water will be our most valuable commodity in the future.

We were also told by an assessor from New Hampshire who does tax valuations on paper mills and power plants and other large industries that our town should receive approximately \$3 million a year from a plant similar to Berkshire Power's proposed plant.

We attended the "Open House" for the new firehouse, which was designed to complement the historical tone of Main Street, Agawam. Residents of Feeding Hills blocked McDonalds from building because it would detract from the character of Feeding Hills Center. In my wildest dreams, I never thought I would be forced to live and work next to a power plant.

Berkshire Power has done what any other large conglomerate would do. Paint the best case scenario possible. Please ask yourself, why does a company have to continually proclaim that they will be the salvation of Agawam if there isn't an enormous downside. This company will gain enormous profit when deregulation of the utilities takes place.

My husband and I have been picketed by the union, and on many occasions, been slandered as members of the CCBA. I hope that you aren't treated like this when, someday, you feel you have to fight for an important cause.

Just remember, the Lottery was going to solve all our educational problems, and Bondi's Island was not supposed to smell.

Sincerely,
Katherine M. Schlaffer
Agawam

Robert Young Supported For Seat On Town Council

To The Editor:

We are writing this letter in support of Robert Young in his bid for a seat on the Agawam Town Council.

As a young, professional couple raising our family in Agawam we have felt increasingly "disenfranchised" by our Town government and do not relate in any way to the so-called leaders of our community.

Are these people worrying about the real issues facing this community now and even more importantly, the issues that will face our children in the future?

Or are they so caught up in fighting out their admittedly "lifelong" personal feuds with each other that they really are out of touch with the needs of this great Town?

Robert Young represents the "New" Agawam. We encourage the voters of Agawam to consider Robert Young for Town Council on November 4th.

Sincerely,
Joe & Lynn Calabrese
Feeding Hills

Geiger Will Strive To Foster Teamwork On The Council

To The Editor:

In last week's edition of *The Agawam Advertiser*, a resident asked several council candidates how they would "improve the atmosphere" of council meetings.

Mr. and Mrs. Sommer, your 11 councilors are peers. They are a team working towards a common goal. For that goal to be achieved, councilors must treat each other with a certain degree of respect and dignity. No councilor's opinion is more important than the opinion of another.

Councilors must be willing to listen, debate, and if necessary have the confidence to say to a fellow councilor, "You have made a valid point, I was wrong." What is the sense of having our councilors debate issues if they are unwilling to be swayed, no matter how strong the opposing argument?

As a councilor, I will strive to foster this team atmosphere and work toward one common goal, a better Agawam. I will be an independent voice, not a puppet for any person or group.

Sincerely,
Gary F. Geiger
Candidate for Agawam City Council

Euliano Campaign Is Interrupted By Personal Loss

To The Editor:

My husband, Bill Euliano, is a candidate for City Council. He campaigned for the Primary Election: writing press releases, holding signs, and talking to people one-on-one, addressing the issues that confront our community.

He has been genuinely concerned about Agawam's future for a long time, as evident by his work as Chairman of the Board of Health. His list of accomplishments over the past 12 years is testament to his ability to "GET THE JOB DONE."

Since the Primary, a grave situation arose in our family. All of Bill's campaigning efforts for the final election in November came to a halt. Bill's mother became ill and passed away recently. He chose to be with her as much as possible during that time.

His family loves and respects Bill for his dignity and dedication. His true strengths were evident to us by the way he chose to channel his priorities during this difficult time, so as to comfort and support his family in their time of sorrow.

Sincerely,
Susan Y. Euliano
Feeding Hills

Johnson Was Wrong To Attack Hebert's Integrity

To The Editor:

This letter is being written in response to an article which appeared in the October 23rd issue of the *Springfield Advocate*, which I'm sure was read by many of Agawam's citizens. That article focuses upon the outspoken support Mayor Johnson has given Berkshire Power.

I am particularly concerned about a statement Mayor Johnson is quoted as saying, which is, "I requested Mr. Hebert to tell the truth. He chose not to." Speaking as someone who has been personally caught up in the issue surrounding Berkshire Power, I believe the Mayor was either misquoted or has himself misrepresented the truth.

This quote is referring to an affidavit ZBA Chairman Ronald Hebert was requested to write concerning what was said and understood between himself and the Mayor on the morning of July 10, 1996. The issue is whether Ron knew if the Mayor was going to court in Northampton as a legal representative of the ZBA to argue against the motion to allow abutters to intervene.

I have known Ron since 1993 when I became a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA). Since that time, I have acquired the utmost respect and admiration for his integrity and hard work. However, I know first-hand that the Mayor has either misrepresented or outright lied about facts surrounding certain situations.

For example, the Mayor did indeed order the ZBA out of the Building Department's Office, and the ZBA was indeed denied access to their files. At first, Mayor Johnson stated that this was done in response to the Board's failure to utilize the legal department, which resulted in several decisions being overturned in court. So I decided to investigate whether or not this was true.

What I found is that since 1993, out of the approximately 134 cases the Board has written decisions on, only one has been overturned in court.

SEE LETTERS - Page 18...

Paid Political Ad

Paid Political Ad

HE HAS EARNED YOUR VOTE
"FOR AGAWAM'S FUTURE"

RE-ELECT
COUNCILOR
GEORGE BITZAS

- * HONESTY
- * INTEGRITY
- * DEDICATION



- * EXPERIENCE
- * LEADERSHIP
- * COMPETENCE

The Councilor With The Most Achievements
And A Record That You Can Be Proud Of.

"I would appreciate your vote on Tuesday, November 4th."

Thank you,

Pull
Lever 26A

George Bitzas

Pull
Lever 26A

George Bitzas

GEORGE CARES ABOUT AGAWAM

Paid for by George Bitzas.

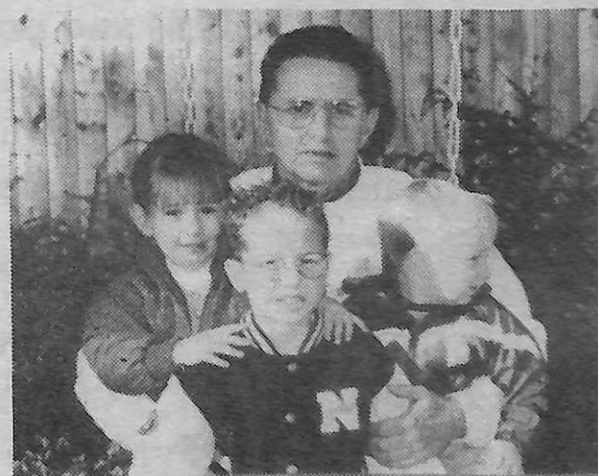
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Elect Ron Brown
City Council

Our Actions Today Form Our Future

Let's Consider What We Are Building
For Our Children And Grandchildren



- Use City Equipment To Clear Sidewalks Of Snow For Elderly And Shut-Ins
- Rewrite Zoning Laws To End Spot Zoning (No More Convenience Stores On Every Corner)
- Prevent The Opening Of Nude Or Semi-Nude Entertainment.
- Let's End The Childish Antics And Petty Bickering Of Some Councilors
- Let's Move Our Council Meetings Off "The Comedy Channel" And Back To Serious Government

Vote Ron Brown — Candidate For City Council

Paid for by Ron Brown.

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The Truth About Gina Marie Letellier

Who She Is And
Why She Is
Qualified To Be
Your Councilor



Why She Deserves
Your Vote:
Her Plans...

Relevant Legal Experience

- LaCroix & Fuller, 1991 To The Present
- Partner, First Female And Youngest Partner
- Successfully Prosecuted Zoning Violations For Two Municipalities
- Researched And Drafted Winning Land Court Brief
- Familiar With Zoning And Municipal Law Issues Including Uniform Procurement Act
- Drafted Opinion Letters On Municipal Law Issues For Two Municipalities In Mass.

Education

- 1985 Graduate Of Agawam High School
- Graduated In Top 10
 - National Honor Society
 - "As Schools Match Wits"
 - Varsity Softball, JV Basketball
 - Student Representative To The School Committee
- 1989 Honors Graduate, Trinity College, Hartford, CT
- Bachelor Of Arts In Political Science
 - Managing Editor, Sports Editor, Ass't News Editor, Trinity Tripod (Weekly Newspaper)
 - President, Newman Club
 - Secretary, College Democrats
 - Varsity Softball
 - Internship With Connecticut Attorney General
- 1993 Juris Doctor, Western New England College School Of Law
- President, Lawyers Guild Student Chapter
 - Women's Law Association
 - Student Government Assoc. Speakers Bureau
 - Intramural Athletics
 - Passed July 1993 Mass. Bar

Return Trust In Government

- Research All Issues Facing Council
- Participate In Respectful Debate
- Encourage Citizen Participation By Publicizing Council Committee Meetings
- Set Up Office Hours To Address Citizens' Concerns
- Listen To "Citizens' Speak Time," Not Abolish It

Improve Senior Services

- Repave Sidewalks
- Expand Meals-On-Wheels To Weekends
- Have Nurse Accompany Meals-On-Wheels To Check On Residents And Make Necessary Referrals For Medical Care Or Other Services
- Create Partnership With Student Groups To Shovel Snow

Protect Retirement Benefits For Retirees When County Is Abolished

Improve Zoning

- Passage Of Adult Entertainment Zoning Ordinance Before Developers Come Into Town
- Review Master Plan And Update Needed Areas
- Preserve Small-Town Charm While Inviting Industrial Development That Maximizes Jobs
- Ensure That Proposed Development Does Not Detract From Character Of Neighborhood

Improve Public Safety

- Return Second Ambulance To Feeding Hills Fire Station
- 100% Operation Of Street Lights
- Creation Of Police Commission With Citizen And Council Members
- Completion Of New DPW Complex

Commitment To Agawam

- Chair, Treasurer, Agawam Democratic Committee
- Ray McCarroll Scholarship Committee, Agawam Rotary Club
- Former Attorney And Current Member, Concerned Citizens And Businesses Of Agawam
- Member, Agawam Historical Association
- Attorney, Western Mass. Pro Bono Referral Network
- Agawam Women's Slo-Pitch Softball League

Honesty

Integrity

For A Ride To The Polls, Please Call 786-4723
Please Exercise Your Right To Vote

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Gina Marie Letellier

LETTERS - from Page 16...

Now, Mayor Johnson denies ever kicking anyone out of any office. Well, he did.

I was told directly by the secretary for the ZBA that she had been ordered not to do anything for the ZBA, to pack up the paperwork, and to deny us access to our files.

I am not usually a very vocal person and tend to keep my opinions to myself. Even though I was angry when the Mayor attacked the character of the ZBA as a whole, I would not have written anything.

However, Mayor Johnson, as quoted, crossed the line by attacking the integrity of someone I know and trust and by misrepresenting the facts as I know them. For that, he has lost not only my vote but also my respect.

Sincerely,

Doreen A. Prouty

Member, Agawam Zoning Board of Appeals

Johnson & His Supporters Have Been Mistreated

To The Editor:

I have listened to the debates and comments on TV and read the many letters in *The Agawam Advertiser News* by the candidates and their supporters regarding the upcoming election.

I must say that a lot of the comments made against Mayor Johnson and his four so-called supporters — Quatrone, Bitzas, Simpson, and Thompson — are getting out of hand and are becoming offensive.

Letter-writers are not looking at the big picture. They are not looking at what is good for the town of Agawam, but for their own special interests. They fail to realize that the four supporters and Mayor Johnson are doing what they believe is best for the town.

Accusations of payoffs and mishandling of the questions (making sure that many of the questions were biased) have been performed by the head of the town Democratic party and other members and associates.

However, it appears that not all members of the Democratic party were in agreement with the actions taken and were very upset. I quote Mrs. Susan Pettazzoni, a lifetime Democrat, from the October 23, 1997 issue of *The AAN*: "I was outraged at the biased questions and the way the audience questions were handled. I thought that this would have been an opportunity for the town Democrats to shine and show our Democratic process at work, but they failed miserably."

I hope that the voters of Agawam realize and understand what is best for the town and that the Mayor and his four supporters have been mistreated and maligned by the residents whom I believe have been misguided by a few individuals who fail to realize that they have caused many of the problems in the town.

I recommend to all of the voters that although there will be 11 spots for councilors, that they vote for only those that they feel will do the best job, and also to vote for the candidate for mayor that has the best qualifications and experience in governing town activities.

Whatever happens, I hope that we will elect candidates who will work in the town's best interests.

Sincerely,

Evan R. Simpson
Agawam

Our Tree-mendous Value!



Our pinecone tree in a pot was assembled in the highlands by rural folk who gathered pinecones and formed them into trees. It's an exceptional gift and a wonderful value at \$12.99.



Surprise!

Your Hallmark Card & Gift Shop

838 Suffield Street
Agawam

786-2407

Open: 9 AM - 8 PM, Mon. - Sat.
10 AM - 6 PM, Sunday

Gina-Marie Letellier Says Thanks For All The Support

To The Editor:

I would like to take this last opportunity before the election on November 4, 1997 to thank those persons who have supported me in my run to become "your" City Councilor.

To everyone that has voted for me, publicly endorsed me, held a sign for me, come to my ziti dinner or tea party, called to ask me a question or offer support, I cannot thank you enough.

To everyone that has watched me on cable access and called me with their thoughts and comments, I must also thank you.

I also want to remind my fellow voters about the importance of the coming election. No vote that is honestly made is a "wasted vote." You must choose wisely.

You will have 22 names on the ballot for City Councilor. Who are you going to vote for? Why? Too many candidates have spent this election hiding from the issues and not telling you where they stand or what they want to do. I have never been afraid to tell you where I stand.

Nor have I been afraid to tell you what I want to do if you are kind enough to continue to vote for me. I ask that you read my ad in this week's *Advertiser*. If you believe in the same things I do, I ask for your vote. If we disagree, call me and let's discuss our positions. Don't ask the *Advertiser* in a letter to the editor where I stand on issues or my role in certain organizations, go to the source, ask me. I believe in "Truth in Life," not "Innuendo in Politics."

This election is your opportunity to choose those persons who will represent you and your opinions and beliefs for the next two years. Additionally, this election gives voters the unique opportunity to tell the world, and particularly the powers in Boston, that we refuse to support any business that refuses to respect our laws.

Let Boston know that you will not step aside while it decides whether your laws count. Send Boston a message so it won't happen again. I respectfully ask that you vote "No" on Question One.

Lastly, if you would like to volunteer on Election Day, or if you need a ride to the polls, please call me at 786-4723. Thank you for your time.

Very truly yours,
Gina-Marie Letellier

Why Is Berkshire Power Running Full Page Ads?

To The Editor:

Maybe I'm a little confused here, but why would Berkshire Power run a full page ad to the people of Agawam to vote yes on the power plant?

Let me think; perhaps they told the DPU that the Town of Agawam wants it. They would never say something that wasn't quite true, would they?

I am the last person on earth interested in politics, but the unscrupulous acts that have taken place in this town go well beyond bad politics. I don't know quite how to define it, but it certainly is not good for this town.

An article in this past *Agawam Advertiser News* questioned Gina Letellier representing the CCBA and running for Town Council. Do we not have four people on our Town Council already representing Berkshire Power? Let's call a spade a spade here.

This coming Tuesday, we will find out where we, the Town of Agawam, stand with Berkshire Power. Please, I urge everyone out there to go to the polls and vote NO on Question One and to look carefully at who you vote into the office of Mayor and who you put on the Town Council.

Pam Bucolo
Agawam

Robert Magovern Good Choice For Town Council

To The Editor:

On this coming Tuesday, November 4th, the voters of Agawam will be going to the polls to elect a mayor and city council.

I suggest each and every other vote give careful thought and consideration to your selection prior to exercising your right to vote.

In keeping with the above, I suggest that one of your votes be cast for Robert Magovern for election to the City Council. I have known Bob for a long time and I believe that he will bring to the council a sense of duty coupled with independent leadership and professionalism.

Sincerely,
Ronald LaRiviere
Feeding Hills

SEE LETTERS - Page 19...

Paid Political Ad

Paid Political Ad



VOTE for JOE



★
Honors
Graduate
Assumption
College



★
Instructor
Mass. Career
Development
Institute

"Honesty, Integrity, Dedication"

LANGONE COUNCIL

for

Paid for by Committee to Re-Elect Joseph Langone Councilor
Ellis C. Langone, Treasurer

LETTERS - from Page 18...

Veterans Should Support Bitzas On Election Day

To The Editor:

Congratulations on the great coverage of the groundbreaking of the Veterans' Memorial Cemetery. Congrats to Jack Devine of *The AAN* for the great photos! Just great!

I would like to add my thanks to George Bitzas, who (as a Town Councilor) has continued to support all veterans' legislation from the Flag Amendment resolution to the great day of the cemetery groundbreaking.

In his "thank you to the voters in the October 16th issue of this paper, he never mentioned what he has done for and with the veterans. All the veterans of Agawam should know how much he has done and show it by casting one of their votes for George on Election Day, November 4th.

That's the way we can say, "Thanks, George, well done." I urge you all, my fellow citizens and veterans, to vote for George.

Thank you,
Peter E. Pappas
Agawam

Bitzas Has Proven To Be Effective Town Councilor

To The Editor:

Councilor Bitzas has proven to be one very effective councilor and his record of achievement speaks for itself.

He conducts himself with dignity and professionalism. He respects others' opinions without confrontations and vindictiveness.

He never refuses anyone a chance to speak their mind and he has proven that he is a good listener. He listens to the wishes of the community.

I may not agree with him on every issue, but he has done and continues to do an excellent job for our town and its people. I am proud to lend my support and my vote to Councilor Bitzas. I believe he has earned it.

Thank you,
Emma L. Ricci
Agawam

Holier-Than-Thou Attitude Laughable By Elected Officials

To The Editor:

I want to take this opportunity to do something I should have done a long time ago. I want to thank some people in town for making a difference.

These people have spent immeasurable time and energy looking out for the best interests of Agawam and its citizens. What these people have received in response to their efforts amounts to what can only be described as a slap in the face from some of our elected officials.

These same elected officials project an arrogant, holier-than-thou attitude that would be laughable if it weren't so pathetic and hurtful. It's

almost uncomfortable to watch these "adults" try so hard to look like intelligent, professional people, especially when they always fail so miserably.

While these same people champion themselves as being the most knowledgeable and educated faction of our government, I question what kind of knowledge and education produces some people so devoid of common sense and decency.

I want to thank some people who know what's right, and who are not afraid to say it when it needs to be said. They are concerned about the quality of life and the quality of politics in a town that is at a crucial point in its history. I worry about children growing up in a town that would lie for a dollar, and I worry when I hear senior citizens say they hate knowing their town is being sold out.

I've learned a lot about what's been going on in this town, and some lessons are harder to learn than others. Sometimes it's easier to believe the lies.

Thank you Donna Jago, Louis Russo, Karl Stieg, Michael Del Negro, Gina-Marie Letellier, Peter Longo, Thomas Ennis, Valentine Moreno,

David Skolnick, Kent Servis, Edward Caba, and many more people who may not have always spoken eloquently, but whose compassion and emotion spoke volumes on honesty and ethics.

Lastly, I want to thank the Cuccovia family, who own and operate Maria's Restaurant. How could any decent person support a company that would try to buy these people's silence?! These are the kind of people we should want in our town, and their business is the kind of business we ought to welcome.

Let me end this letter by asking everyone who reads it to think about what has happened to this town and who truly caused the division, mistrust, and anger and before you vote on November 4th, **KNOW** who made, and can make, a difference.

Sincerely,
Rob Allard
Agawam

SEE LETTERS -
continued to Page 22...

Paid Political Ad

Paid Political Ad

Town Council Candidate Don Rheault Has His Roots...



And His Branches, In Agawam

"Don has a deep and sincere commitment to public service and our community."

- Original co-founder of the Agawam Athletic Association.
- Member Sacred Heart Church Parish Council.
- Former member Agawam Lions Club.
- Owner of The Message on Hold Network of New England.
- Member Agawam Chamber Of Commerce.

As a former Town Council President, Don earned the respect and confidence of his peers as being able to foster fair and open debate. Don was elected President by **six different** councils and his tenure still stands as the longest to date.

**Please Vote Don Rheault, Council
Lever 23A
November 4, 1997**

Paid for by Joan Rheault

The Checkered Cow



**COME SEE
WHAT'S NEW!**

- * Country and primitive furniture
- * "Grungie" candles.
- * Hand-painted gifts and seasonal decorations.
- * Accepting VISA, MasterCard, and Discover credit cards.
- * NOW BOOKING IN-STORE HOSTESS PARTIES!

NOW OPEN SUNDAYS!

Bring this ad and receive
10% off one item!

559 Springfield Street,
Feeding Hills, MA 786-6913
Open 6 days, closed Tuesdays

JOIN FOR ONLY ... \$12!

Fitness First...
Celebrating 12 Years
Of Fun & Fitness!



It's Fitness First's 12th Anniversary Celebration
and you can join for just **\$12!**
Singles, couples, and families
can save hundreds on enrollment
THIS WEEK ONLY!

Start your fitness program at the area's
PREMIER
HEALTH & FITNESS CENTER.

Fitness First is a **GREAT PLACE**
to workout, run, swim, play racquetball,
or join in a fitness class!

Plus! Try the new spinning classes!

All for just \$12 and low monthly dues.



You'll love the
FAMILY ATMOSPHERE,
CLEAN FACILITIES,
& FRIENDLY STAFF!

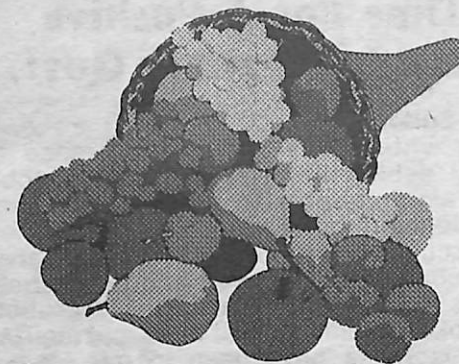
Fitness First... for health that lasts.
Hurry! Offer ends Saturday, Nov 1, 1997!



* 60 North Westfield Street, Feeding Hills * 413 786-1460 *



*You are cordially invited
to attend the*
**13th Annual
Fitness First**



Open House Day!

This Saturday, November 1st
9 am - 5 pm

Schedule of Events::

9 am - 5 pm
9 am - 3 pm
9 - 9:30 am
9:15 am
9:30 - 10:30 am

10:00 am - 3 pm
10:30 - 11:30 am
11:30 - 12:30 pm
11:00 - 11:45 am
12:00 - 12:30 pm
Noon - 5 pm
Noon - 5 pm

1 - 2 pm

1 - 3 pm
1 - 3 pm
1 - 1:30 pm

FREE use of the club for members & friends!
Nursery is free and hours are hours extended for your convenience
Spinning Demo Class! Join other members & guests for a fun first time spin
Fat Burner Aerobics Class free for members & guests
Advanced Spinning Class (For Advanced Spinners Only)
Healthy Homemade Snack Buffet next to courts 1 & 2
Kid's Clubhouse/Nursery Halloween Party for ages 6 and under
Parents & Children can try out the NEW KID'S GYM in Studio II
Intermediate Spinning Class! Join members & guests for a spin
Spinning Demo Class! Join members & guests for a fun first time spin
FREE Family Swim
Body Composition Analysis
Blood Pressure Checks
Special Cardio Jam Aerobic Class free for members & guests
Tai Chi Participating Demonstration with Master Mike
WPKX Radio 97.9 fm - Live Remote Broadcasting & Give-a-ways
Annual Bench Press Competition for members
Spinning Demo Class! Join members & guests for a fun first time spin

If you would like to participate in any of the above events,
please call the club to sign up (413) 786-1460!

FREE Door Prizes Given Away ON THE HOUR!



* 60 North Westfield Street, Feeding Hills * 413 786-1460 *

LETTERS - from Page 19...

It's Time For A Positive Change In Agawam Govt.

To The Editor:

I am writing this letter in reference to the Mayoral debate held on Tuesday, October 21, 1997. I am quite puzzled about a statement that Mayor Johnson made.

He accused Town Council President Servis that he had changed his mind on a certain issue which pertains to our town. The issue was about the video poker machines. I sat there and realized that these machines have been in our town since Mayor Johnson took office.

I have three questions I wish Mayor Johnson would answer.

1. Why did it take seven years for you to remove these machines?
2. Why blame Town Council President Servis who has only been on the Council for two years?
3. Who is really the candidate that changed his decision?

I read Mayor Johnson's letter to the editor in last week's *Agawam Advertiser*. I was confused when I read that Mayor Johnson accused Town Council President Servis of distorting the facts on the new school additions.

Mayor Johnson stated that our 1998 taxes would not be going up because of these new additions. I am grateful for these additions because of the present overcrowding. It's certainly about time to take care of these problems which concern parents and children alike.

My problem with this issue is that the additions should have been added four years ago when the Mayor allowed new housing developments to be built. Mayor Johnson also stated that 71 percent of the cost of the additions will be reimbursed by the State of Massachusetts. My question to Mayor Johnson is, "Who is paying the other 29 percent?"

Agawam is a fine community to call home. I am deeply concerned about preserving the quality of life for the good of all the citizens. Kent Servis is deeply committed to this also and that is why he is my choice for Mayor of Agawam.

It's wonderful to drive around town and see the many "Servis for Mayor" signs on the lawns supporting this fine candidate. I urge everyone to vote on Tuesday, November 4th and help make a much needed positive change for our fine town.

Cindi (Grasso) Rackliffe
Feeding Hills

Kasparian Offers Open Discussion In Town

To The Editor:

I find it disheartening to read the letters and advertisements which try to encourage the people in town to choose sides on every issue. The "sides" that I have seen seem to be pro-mayor and anti-mayor regardless of the issue being debated.

Those who believe in "sides" also seem to believe that any member of the "other side" is incapable of having a good idea and any member of "our side" is always good and right. It is this type of close mindedness that has kept us from effectively planning for the future of our town.

I would like to believe that all of our elected of-

The Agawam Advertiser News

ficials and candidates are capable of good ideas and that they are all basically good people with good intentions. Open discussion between the groups, instead of personal attacks, could result in the best ideas of all concerned being put into action to move Agawam forward. We should concentrate on debating the merits of each message being proposed in each instance rather than attacking the messenger.

If everyone on the council was of the same opinion we would not need a council at all. The fact that there are differing opinions is the hallmark of the democratic process and we should seek a council with as many differing opinions on issues as possible so that all sides of issues can be examined before a vote is taken.

I would ask you to please keep an open mind in the coming election and cast one of your votes for Abe Kasparian for Town Council on Nov. 4th and write in the name of Abe Kasparian. I believe that Abe has the ability to recognize a good idea regardless of which "side" proposes it.

Thank you,
Connie Kasparian
Agawam

Candidate Ronald Brown Responds To Letter

To The Editor:

To Mr. & Mrs. G.L. Sommer:

In response to your letter published in the October 23rd *AAN*, I will attempt to answer some of your questions.

1. To improve the atmosphere, accomplish more and appear more professional, I would promote working together. Parliamentary debate is healthy. Petty bickering, name calling, and disruptive behavior is counterproductive.

2. The Council has very little input into the control of our schools or the policy of our school board. The Council in committee can only inquire about portions of the budget. They have no line item veto.

3. Citizen's Speak Time is an extremely important provision of our charter. The people's voice in the operation of our town should never be denied. I would only hope the people would tire of the few that use speak time to further their political careers or ridicule and defame the town. I believe the five minute rule should be strictly enforced.

4. The zoning laws have to be refined. Specific areas for lite manufacturing, heavy manufactur-

ing, retail sales, and professional services have to be defined. Only then can future development be standardized.

5. In conjunction with the proposed library addition, we should implement a modified book mobile. Seniors or persons unable to get to the library would be able to call and request reading material to be delivered to their home.

Hopefully, I have clarified some of my views in answer to your questions.

Ronald Brown
City Council Candidate

Perplexed By News Article In Last Week's Advertiser News

To The Editor:

I am perplexed by Mrs. Cassanelli's article in last week's *Advertiser* ("Off Air Controversy"). I was at the Democratic Committee's mayoral debate and I saw questions submitted by the Agawam High Model Congress students and from proponents of both candidates in the audience.

All submitted questions were asked in the first half hour. Then more were solicited from the audience. When time ran out, some questions were not asked. I submitted two questions. One was asked and one was not. I was disappointed but I understood. We simply ran out of time.

Both candidates fared well and gave their views on questions. The *AAN* article was based on three complaints (all from candidates for office).

When one of the disgruntled committee members (and candidate for Council) brought Mrs. Cassanelli over to me for my opinion about who was supposed to be moderator, I said it was my understanding no candidate was to moderate the debate. I was not at the executive committee meeting when that was decided. Mr. Altobelli is not a candidate for office and he did a commendable job as moderator.

I personally wish to congratulate Ms. Gina Letellier for the fine job she and the Agawam Democratic Committee did organizing and presenting the debate. Because of this debate, Agawam voters have a better understanding of the candidates' views.

I give my personal thank you to the Agawam High School students that participated. They did a wonderful job.

Jack Rioni
Feeding Hills

SEE LETTERS - Page 24...

Paid Political Ad

Please Vote For David Skolnick For City Council



- A vote for David Skolnick is ... a vote for dedicated and concerned government.
- A vote for David Skolnick is ... a vote for what is in the best interests for the whole town of Agawam.
- A vote for David Skolnick is ... a vote for the future of Agawam.

Some of David Skolnick's many accomplishments are the following:

World War II Veteran - Pacific Theater

Senior Citizen

Founder and President of Robinson Park School PTA

President of Agawam Education Association

President of Agawam Trestle Board

Advisor to Future Farmers of America Chapter which achieved National recognition

Self-Defense Instructor for Agawam Park & Recreation

Potentate Melha Temple of Shriners

Thirty-four years of meritorious service to Town of Agawam School Department as:

Teacher; Certified School Psychologist; Agawam High School Guidance Director; "Work Study" Director; Distributive Education Director; and Armed Forces Liaison

Former Chairman of Agawam Democratic Town Committee

Recipient of WWLP Channel 22's "Outstanding Servant of the Public" Award

David Skolnick Has And Will Remain A Voice For Reason And Responsible Government.

Please Vote For David Skolnick So He May Continue To Protect And Serve The Citizens Of The Town Of Agawam.

Paid for by the Committee To Re-Elect David Skolnick, City Councilor.

Americana, Tradition And Value!



Our rooster centerpiece recalls long ago American farming culture. Hallmark artist Ruth Nigro captures the heart of rural tradition in this unique table decoration. A wonderful addition to your family's harvest table.



Surprise!

Your Hallmark Card & Gift Shop

838 Suffield Street Agawam 786-2407

Open: 9 AM - 8 PM, Mon. - Sat.

10 AM - 6 PM, Sunday

Paid Political Ad

Paid Political Ad

AGAWAM INDUSTRIAL PARK

AGAWAM'S INDUSTRIAL PARK CAN ONLY BENEFIT FROM A POWER PLANT. IT'S ZONED FOR IT.



Ronald LaRiviere - Former Agawam Zoning Member 1977-1990; Chairman 1987-1990

I've lived in Agawam for over 25 years. I know a bit about our zoning laws and what the people of Agawam originally **intended** our Industrial Park to be used for.

There's been a lot of debate about what our industrial park was designed for, about what should or shouldn't be there. I wish this debate was based on facts, but too often politics doesn't allow for real issues to be discussed.

As a member of The Agawam **Zoning Board** of Appeals from the late 70's to 1990, and as Chairperson from 1987 to 1990, I know that when the park was **first zoned** back in the mid 1970's, the people and planners of Agawam had a goal - to make our town **less dependent** on state funds - and more importantly, **less dependent on our homeowner's and business people's tax dollars.**

We **knew** we need to bring **economic opportunity, jobs, and new revenue** to Agawam - for our schools, fire, police protection and to keep our **taxes down.**

The Industrial Park was designed to do just that. It has been successful. But for Agawam to attract new business, new revenue and jobs we have to be competitive. Southern States offer businesses incentives we can't. They also lure business with **low cost electricity.**

A plant like Berkshire Power will **benefit** the Industrial Park. That's one of the reasons that the Tenneco Natural Gas Line **has run safely and efficiently through the Industrial Park property for over 20 years - without any problems, most folks don't even know it's there.** The \$7.4 million payment Berkshire Power has legally committed to pay Agawam in its agreement with the Zoning Board - not to mention the additional \$1.3 million it means in revenues is the kind of economic opportunity we envisioned when the Industrial Park was planned.

Agawam needs Berkshire Power - We need its jobs and its clean, dependable low cost electricity. It's the power we need to keep Agawam's future alive. Please join me and vote Yes on Question One on Tuesday, November 4, 1997.

PLEASE VOTE YES ON QUESTION ONE.

Paid For By Berkshire Power.

LETTERS - from Page 22...

George Bitzas Has Shown He Has The Right Stuff!

To The Editor:

On Tuesday, November 4th, we will have the opportunity to exercise our right to vote for candidates competing for various offices. Using good judgement and being well informed, we will hopefully choose wisely.

If you believe, as I do, that George Bitzas will help keep Agawam moving in the right direction, if you believe him to be a willing, sincere, and capable candidate for City Council, you will cast one of your votes for him.

George emigrated to Agawam from his native Greece and became interested in local activities. He has chosen to raise his family here and cares about improving conditions, not only for their welfare, but because he truly loves his adopted country and the Town of Agawam.

George does retain the accent of his native land. I admire him, not for his words, but more for his actions and devotion. George has distinguished himself by his record and was awarded the Massachusetts American Legion "Outstanding Foreign Born American Citizen Award."

George Bitzas deserves your vote on Election Day. He should be judged for his ability and for what he has done to make Agawam a better place for all of us.

Thank you,
Ellie Richards
Agawam

Chris Quatrone Acts With Integrity & Professionalism

To The Editor:

I am writing to urge you to join with me in supporting **Chris Quatrone** for re-election to the Agawam Town Council.

Chris cares deeply about our community and has always voted with the best interests of our citizens in mind. **Chris** has proven himself to be a strong and independent leader on the Council.

Councilor **Quatrone** has always acted with integrity and professionalism in his efforts to make Agawam a better place in which to live and raise a family. **Chris** has earned our trust and deserves our votes.

Please vote for **Chris Quatrone** on Tuesday, November 4th.

Very truly yours,
Jane Gallerani
Feeding Hills

Disappointed With Letter But Not Surprised By It

To The Editor:

To Ernestine Book:

I was disappointed to read your letter about me but not surprised to see yet another letter of unwavering loyalty to Mr. Russo and Gina Letellier.

My wife and I respect you and your husband, Art. We have engaged socially together for only the last couple of years and have found both you and your husband extremely nice and wonderful people.

Your loyalty to people you have known for many, many years is admirable. I am sure that they would expect no less from you.

It is unfortunate that you misunderstood what

the letter was trying to convey. My statements were not meant as a "mud sling." It was a factual piece and those facts have never been disputed.

I believe that people should be able to disagree on some political issues and still maintain a friendly relationship. I would hope that you feel the same.

Respectfully submitted,
Abe Kasparian
Write-In Candidate For City Council

Negrucchi Has Been Forthright On Speaking About The Issues

To The Editor:

In the October 23, 1997 issue of *The Agawam Advertiser News*, a letter was published by a Mr. & Mrs. G.L. Sommer of Feeding Hills.

This letter alleged that, in essence, John Negrucchi and six other challengers had not shared their views and opinions on the issues facing our town.

I will not speak for the other candidates, but as far as Mr. Negrucchi is concerned, I believe he has issued as many (if not more) press releases as any other candidate, on a variety of issues.

Mr. Negrucchi has clearly set forth his views in an open and honest manner, indicating his support for the following:

1. a new DPW garage;
2. expansion of the Senior Center;
3. expansion of the Public Library;
4. long range plan for new Town Hall and municipal center;
5. additional recreation fields;
6. more funding for education;
7. a professional and courteous council; and
8. a positive agenda for the council.

Therefore, I respectfully request that Mr. & Mrs. G.L. Sommer of Feeding Hills, as well as the voters, consider Mr. John Negrucchi for one of their 11 votes. He is a positive choice for Agawam.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,
Anthony C. Bonavita
Campaign Chairman
Committee to Elect John Negrucchi

Truth Is Finally Out About Mayor Johnson's Beliefs

To The Editor:

Well, the truth is finally out. The proof was Tuesday night's debate. Mayor Johnson was asked if he would still support Berkshire Power if we, the people, overwhelmingly voted against it.

He simply, and without hesitation whatsoever, stated, "NO." I hope that was all it took for some people to **open their eyes**.

From day one, the Mayor has spoken out for the rights of Berkshire Power and any other outside business that wanted in. He threatened that if we took a stand against Berkshire Power, that we would scare new businesses away. (Yet, I failed to see any terror in the eyes of the people bringing new businesses into our Industrial Park.)

The Mayor has proven time and time again, by not letting the people have their say, by not letting the town be represented in court, and by never showing up for any of the council meetings, that he is not for the people or the town at all.

I hope on November 4th, the people finally have their say, and I hope they say **GOODBYE** and good riddance to Mayor Johnson and Berkshire Power for **GOOD!!!**

Andrea Scalise
Feeding Hills

Town Is Fortunate To Have Bitzas As Town Councilor

To The Editor:

We are very fortunate to have George Bitzas as our Town Councilor. I wish we had more councilors like him.

Like many of you, I am a senior living in my own home. It was Councilor Bitzas who pushed for local support and filed a resolution calling on state legislators to increase budget appropriations for home care that would better meet the needs of our senior citizens requiring daily assistance.

I would like to remind you that it was Councilor Bitzas who requested expanded van services for the elderly, supported funding to offset state cuts in the Agawam Senior Center nutrition program, and continues to lobby for the state to help us expand the Senior Center.

I hope you will support Councilor Bitzas with your vote for reelection. He is a councilor that has worked hard and continues to work hard for us.

Sincerely,
Laura Harrington
Agawam

Indian Prophecy Used In Dissent Against Berkshire

To The Editor:

Only after the last tree has been cut down,
Only after the last fish has been caught,
Only after the last river has been poisoned,
Only then will you realize that money can't be eaten.

CREE INDIAN PROPHECY
People of Agawam, PLEASE, PLEASE vote **NO** on Question 1. **SAVE OUR WATER! SAVE OUR AIR!**

Barbara Peterson
Agawam

CORRECTION:

In a story in the October 23rd edition of *The AAN*, a member of the Democratic Town Committee was misidentified.

Remarks related to the Committee's mayoral debate were erroneously attributed to Jack Riordan. The remarks were made by Jack Rioni.

We regret the error.

Best local news...

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Clip This Valuable Coupon:

Redeem on November 4th At the Polls

These Elected Officials **CHEATED** you of your **RIGHT** to **VOTE**
They refused to support the **BERKSHIRE POWER REFERENDUM**
5 times. THEY DON'T DESERVE YOUR VOTE.

If You Agree Please **SKIP** The Following Levers

Christopher C. Johnson	SKIP Lever 1A
Christian M. Quatrone	SKIP Lever 11A
Nancy E. Thompson	SKIP Lever 17A
George Bitzas	SKIP Lever 26A

**These People Said No To You,
Now It's Your Turn To Say No To Them!**

Please Vote For Candidates That Will Represent You!

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Campaign '97

Candidates Speak About Their Positions On Berkshire Power

CHRISTOPHER C. JOHNSON (I) YES

"I support the construction of Berkshire Power's proposed state-of-the-art, gas-fired power generation facility on industrially zoned property off Moylan Lane and Shoemaker Lane because it will:

"(1) create 200-250 new local union construction jobs during its 18-20 month construction period. 2) create 15-25 new high paying permanent employment opportunities with local hiring preference. 3) be one of the largest taxpayers in Agawam at their current offer of \$1.1 million per year, escalating at 3 percent per year (please note that if the town chooses not to enter into a payment in-lieu-of-taxes (PILOT) agreement with BP, they have indicated they will organize as a manufacturing corporation which will result in BP paying higher state taxes but less than \$300,000 in local taxes per year). Also, please note that the entire Agawam Regional Industrial Park pays less than \$1 million per year in taxes to the Town of Agawam.

"(4) BP will be the largest water/sewer rate payer (close to \$1 million per year at current rates) which will result in rate stabilization for all residential and commercial water/sewer users. 5) BP will be one of the cleanest operating power generation facilities in the world, which will result in improvements in regional air quality when older, dirtier power plants are not operated.

"(5) BP will be a producer of low cost electricity for potential sale to the residents and businesses in Agawam."

KENT SERVIS NO

"I voted NO at last week's council meeting on Berkshire Power because I believe in upholding my oath of office to protect our zoning laws.

"I testified against the DPU overturning our zoning laws and our home rule charter. This sets a dangerous precedent for all 351 cities and towns in Massachusetts. Recent news stories showing nearly empty reservoirs in Central Massachusetts point out how precious our water resources are.

"Every community on the Springfield Water System received odd-even watering notices and letters to conserve water for the last three years. These were included in the water bills of every community **except** Agawam."

"I am not against power plants in general. However, this project and the faulty in-lieu-of-tax agreement is wrong for Agawam. If we must have this project, then they should pay the \$3 to \$4 million in taxes on a level playing field with all other businesses in town."

GEORGE BITZAS (I) YES

"A few months ago a private citizen started a petition to put a referendum question concerning the power plant on the ballot. She presented the petition for verification to the town clerk and then to the Town Council. I spoke in favor of placing the referendum question on the ballot so that the people could express their voice and I voted in favor of it.

"The question is now on the ballot. Personally, after years of studying the issue and learning the facts, I have decided to support the clean, gas-fired power plant for the benefits it will provide the town. If I was convinced our water supply would be damaged in any way, or that it was a dirty or noisy plant that would be built, I would never support this project.

"The people have the right to vote the way they

feel and one should respect the opinion of others on this or any other issue. There are many important issues facing our town and the council must work together with respect and cooperation in dealing with each of them.

"As your councilor I will continue to do my best to serve you and our town with honesty, dignity, cooperation, and professionalism to make Agawam a better place for us and our children."

RONALD BROWN YES

"The DPU has rendered its decision. It's time now to end the battle. The debate and rhetoric are moot. It's time for the council and the Mayor to band together and hammer out the best deal for Agawam.

"Substantial remittance, alternative water supply, if needed, athletic fields, hiking trails, or a lighted skating pond. Let's get it in print and get on with life. The town has been divided for too long."

EDWARD A. CABA (I) NO

"I was one of the first councilors called by the administration to meet and listen to the presentation given by representatives of Berkshire Power headed by Ken Roberts and his associates.

"Their meetings were used by BP to inform the public that the City Council was in favor of the proposed power plant. This was misleading to say the least. The Agawam City Council in fact never took a vote on the matter until October 1997 which

went 6-4 against.

"On numerous occasions in ensuing council meetings the City Council tried to place a non-binding ballot question for all of our voters to have the opportunity to express their choice. It was denied. As a matter of fact, to my recollection, a petition was presented to the council asking for the ballot question and it was removed from the agenda, never giving the public the opportunity to address the citizen's request contained in the petition which is provided to our people by our Home Rule Charter.

"The rest is history and because of their attitude, I am proud that I am now opposed to the position of the administration and BP.

"I respectfully urge our people to give a **RE-SOUNDING NO** to Question I."

STANLEY J. CHMIELEWSKI NO

"Now that the Boston DPU has told us what we are going to have in our town, we have a ballot question that is two years too late. We now are asked our opinion on whether we, the residents of Agawam, want Berkshire Power to build in our community. A 'non-binding' referendum question, which will only show the preference of the community but will have no effect on stopping the BP project, without an appeal, is now before us.

"Two years ago our elected officials took your right for a binding referendum on the BP Project

SEE QUESTION I - Page 26...

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Through the years...

**As your Safety Officer and then your Police Chief,
my door was always open to ALL of the
citizens of Agawam.
*I listened and did my best to help you.***



**Now I need your vote so that I may again serve
and help you. Please vote for Stanley J.
Chmielewski on November 4th.**

Paid for by the Committee to elect Stanley J. Chmielewski

Have The Very Best Possible Time At Your
Next Party

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Charles Parker

37 Sheri Lane
Agawam

Campaign '97 - continued...

QUESTION I - from Page 25...

away from you. We must not let them do that to us again.

"While we may have lost out to BP, for now, let us not continue to lose out on our rights to decide what is best for our community. We must take back our right to decide what we want for our town - the town we support with our taxes and votes.

"As a lifelong resident of Agawam, I have experienced the changes our town has gone through. Many of these changes have been very beneficial to our town. Some have not.

"Enough is enough! To keep what is left of our beautiful Agawam, its country setting and its 'town' feeling, I believe what BP can offer, we can do without. I will be voting NO on that question."

MICHAEL DELNEGRO NO

"My vote on the Berkshire Power ballot question will be no. The world has learned what happens when good people stand silent and allow others to suffer. What is done to one of us will be done to all of us.

"The building of this power plant will hurt people. It shouldn't be necessary for any candidate to have to say more than that!"

F. WILLIAM EULIANO YES

"If you elect me to represent you on November 4th, you will be asking me to represent your interests, pay attention to detail, research issues fairly, and make good decisions on your behalf.

"It appears that Berkshire Power is going to receive the necessary permits to initiate construction based on the DPU ruling last week. The first thing I'm going to tell you is to take the emotion from this issue and analyze what is best for the City of Agawam.

"The critical question now becomes what kind of a relationship do we want to establish with BP? It becomes clear the real issue is how do we as a community maximize our relationship?

"Last week BP Project Manager Ken Roberts indicated that if the City Council rejected their \$1.2 million in-lieu-of-tax agreement, he would be willing to renegotiate the agreement. Keeping in mind that industrial growth and revenue stabilizes the residential tax rate, I think a \$2.5 to \$3 million in-lieu-of-tax agreement would be appropriate.

"I have closely monitored the review process with respect to environmental standards and find the facility to be environmentally sound. I do not support a special manufacturer's tax exempt status for BP. I do believe in a level playing field for all commercial and industrial corporations.

"However, the reality is BP can apply for tax exempt status, so I feel the in-lieu-of-tax agreement is more beneficial to the City of Agawam. In general terms, I support this project.

GARY GEIGER NO

"Three years ago our standing City Council voted in favor of Berkshire Power, thus inviting them into our town. I believe that had a referendum vote been offered at that time, BP would have received a favorable vote. Since that time the town's sentiment has changed and BP has easily dismissed or side-stepped every obstacle they have encountered. It came as no surprise to me when last week the DPU gave BP the okay to build in Agawam.

"I do not feel that BP is the best project for Agawam. This issue has caused a rift in our town that may take years to heal. BP has bullied private citizens who were simply trying to protect their own interests. Not even the strongest supporters would want a power plant in their backyard.

"Do I want BP? NO. However, I do not think we have a choice. BP will be built in Agawam. The Mayor, the City Council, and the people of

Agawam must now make sure that we get everything that we want from this company. As the saying goes, we must dot our i's and cross our t's. The Mayor and City Council must scrutinize the in-lieu-of-tax agreement to ensure that this is truly the best deal for Agawam. We must now look for a way to work with BP to ensure that they truly will be 'friendly' neighbors."

ABE KASPARIAN YES

"Two years ago I said NO for three reasons. The large number of abutters who were opposed to the siting of the plant, the proposed in-lieu-of-tax contract, and the use of large quantities of drinking water.

"Today, I would vote YES. I have come to this decision based on the opportunities I have had in the current position that I hold as Hampden County Commissioner. I have met with Springfield officials on the water issue. I have had meetings with state legislators, attended deregulation hearings in Boston, and acquired an understanding of where the Commonwealth is headed in the deregulation of electricity. Older and much more offensive power plants are being closed and gas fired, electric generating plants throughout our region are opening.

"In my opinion, Agawam has already said YES to Berkshire Power by our lax zoning laws and our permitting process. BP or any business should not be made to pay the price of our failure to adequately plan for the growth of our town. It is too late to say NO to BP. However, it is not too late to allow the mayor's office to work in the best interest for all citizens of Agawam to obtain the best financial package possible and to present that arrangement publicly to the citizens and the City Council for ratification."

JOSEPH LANGONE (I) NO

"I have been totally against this power plant from the beginning. I am against dealing with people like Berkshire Power. My questions about the environment have not been answered to my satisfaction. The pollutants that will be placed in our air are not safe, no matter what they say.

"Berkshire Power is selling the Town of Agawam a bill of goods about being good neighbors. Good neighbors are not above the laws of a community. Berkshire Power thinks they are."

GINA M. LETELLIER NO

"I have provided detailed reasons for my dissent on Berkshire Power in a press release in this week's AAN. The top ten reasons to vote no on Berkshire Power are:

"1) BP's refusal to agree to pay their fair share of taxes, even though they know they cannot qualify for a tax exemption. 2) The proposed in-lieu-of-tax agreement is a rip-off. 3) No evacuation plan for nearby residents and businesses. 4) No backup water plan. 5) BP's lack of respect for our town, our laws, and our citizens.

"6) BP's manipulation of the unions. 7) BP broke its promise to be a good neighbor and leave if it was not wanted. 8) BP sued our town, our citizens, and fought against our citizens' rights to intervene and defend our town. 9) BP has divided our town like no issue ever has. 10) If there is not enough water for Riverside's Grove, how can there be an extra 1.5 million gallons per day for BP?"

PETER LONGO NO

"As a candidate for City Council, I would like to reaffirm my position on the construction and operation of a power plant in the Town of Agawam. I am strongly opposed to its construction. The proposed site is zoned for light industrial use in our industrial park. The construction of this plant is not a permitted use and required a special permit that was denied by the Agawam Board of

Appeals.

"Berkshire Power then went to the Department of Public Utilities to secure an unprecedented override of our zoning laws by indicating they had full community support of our community which was far from the truth.

"These people have connived, coerced, intimidated, and attempted to bribe anyone who stood in their way, even as far as to sue citizens who spoke out against them. They have proven they are not the kind of business we want or need in this town.

"I have been an active member of the CCBA for the last three years and I will continue to fight for the demise of this project. BP does not have the green light to build as there is a 30-day appeal period that will be exercised. Vote NO on Question I."

ROBERT MAGOVERN YES

"I am in favor of the power plant and promote sound economic development of Agawam. In order to have the school system, elderly services, libraries, highways, and all other town services, we must have a tax base to pay for them.

"Part of the question asked by *The AAN* has been answered by the state overriding local control by passage of the question. The several years of argument are now over. Both winners and losers should now come together for the betterment of the town and work out the best deal for Agawam.

"I want to do what is right for Agawam and in my opinion, I will hold for BP to be taxed like any other business in town. We have not given tax abatements to Riverside, which employs far more people than BP will ever employ. It is not from an adversarial point of view that I say we should not accept the proposal as it stands now. It is just common sense. If the proposal is not what is right for Agawam in the long run, it will not be right for BP. BP will be here for years and I am sure they would not want a stain on their community relations.

"I do want to add, however, that given the right circumstance, I am not against seeking out a special business and offering them incentives to move to Agawam. I would like to see the redevelopment of an Economic Development Commission to work with businesses in all parts of the state and country and try to get them to come to Agawam. I would hope that with careful planning and proper regulation we can avoid the type of problems we had with BP."

JOHN J. NEGRUCCI YES

"This has been an emotional issue which has divided family members and friends in our town. Everyone has a right to their opinion, but it should be expressed respectfully.

"It is the job of the councilor to weigh an issue for the overall good of our town. The council has certain definable legislative duties which it can accomplish. Therefore, while I support the Berkshire Power project in Agawam, I do so with the following conditions:

SEE QUESTION I - Page 28...

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Billy Euliano City Council

- Fought For Stricter Emission Standards On Incinerator At Bondi's Island.
- Initiated Leaf Composting With City Of Springfield.
- Initiated Annual Hazardous Waste Collections.
- Removed Lead From Water Supply In Public Schools.
- Developed Stricter Septic Standards For New Construction.
- Works To Provide Quality Health Services For Senior Citizens.
- Supports Mayor Johnson And Berkshire Power Project.
- Initiated Grant Program For Septic Repairs Available To All Agawam Residents.

Sensible, Qualified Leadership

Paid for by the Euliano Committee

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Paid for by the Committee to Elect Peter Longo.

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LEVER
13a**

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WHO IS BERKSHIRE POWER?

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Berkshire Power is no stranger to Agawam.

For almost three years, the plant's engineers and environmental consultants have spent more than 90 hours testing **publicly** before Agawam's local boards, like the City Council and Conservation Commission. They have spent **hundreds of hours**, testifying **under oath** to The Department of Public Utilities and The Massachusetts Energies Facilities Sitings Board - the governmental agencies who will regulate Berkshire Power.

They've told the truth about the plant. **They've proven it will be one of the world's cleanest.** Berkshire Power has won the difficult **approval** of the D.P.U. to go ahead and **build**.

But it is important to us that you know **exactly** who Berkshire Power is.

Berkshire Power has been around a lot longer than you may realize. The El Paso Gas Company is the major owner of Berkshire Power. Around here, we know El Paso as the Tenneco Gas Line people.

The Tenneco Gas Line has run through the City of Agawam **since 1951, 46 years - without problem.** They have been a good neighbor and because they're here, natural gas has been available to attract new business for the Agawam Industrial Park. **Tenneco provides nearly 50% of New England with natural gas.**

Berkshire Power, El Paso, has won local Agawam approvals from:

The Agawam Conservation Commission
The Agawam Planning Board
The Agawam Zoning Board of Appeals
(two votes, one 2-1 in favor, the second unanimous)

In 1995, Agawam's Mayor and City Council **invited** Berkshire Power to come to Agawam. Only one councilor of eleven abstained from the vote.

Other Agawam officials, **from the Health Commissioner to the Fire Chief, wrote letters of support for the project.** Even the School Superintendent supported the project.

There's been a lot of politics, rumors and confusion thrown at the public by the remaining opponents of the project. Many of these opponents are running for political office. That's okay. That's their right and we support their right to do and say what they want **when it's the truth.**

They'd like you to think that Berkshire Power is some huge, industrial "evil empire". We're not. **We're the gas company that's been in your town for the last 46 years.**

We would *deeply* appreciate your consideration and support on Tuesday, November 4, 1997.

PLEASE VOTE YES ON QUESTION ONE

Campaign '97 - continued...**QUESTION I -****continued from Page 26...**

"(1) That there are no proven and/or documented health concerns resulting from the plant. 2) That as of January 1st, 1998, the newly-elected council review the in-lieu-of-tax agreement to ensure that it benefits the citizens of Agawam.

"I believe we must attract new business to Agawam to increase our tax base so that we have the necessary funds to make the capital improvements and to fund education. If legally possible, I would support earmarking funds received from the BP plant for education.

"In conclusion, I request the voters consider my opinion on this issue as well as the many other issues which I have detailed in my campaign. I believe I can bring stability and respect to the council."

DENNIS PERRY (I) NO

"As a businessman in the Agawam Industrial Park, the industrial zone chosen for the Berkshire Power Plant was never intended for a business of this magnitude. This industrial zone is far better suited for 'light industry' and in my estimation, a power plant far exceeds the intended use for this tract of land.

"Moreover, I believe this is also a quality of life issue and I am convinced that our community does not need a power plant. Many in the town are concerned with keeping our small town character and the BP Project is certainly not in the best interests of Agawam maintaining a small town image.

"And although I am not an environmental expert, I do not feel comfortable with some of the environmental issues that have been raised, especially the water issue.

"I hope the people of Agawam will vote NO on Question I on November 4th."

CHRIS QUATRONE (I) YES

"I support the proposed Berkshire Power facility because it will be one of the cleanest operating power generation facilities in the world. Its construction and operation will take older and dirtier power plants off line which will result in regional air quality improvements.

"The facility will also produce low cost electricity which in a deregulated electric industry would be available for sale to Agawam residents and businesses, thereby reducing their electric bills. The plant will also be one of the largest taxpayers in Agawam and be the largest water/sewer ratepayer, thereby helping to keep taxes and water/sewer rates down.

"The plant will also create many new local union construction and maintenance jobs and high quality permanent jobs."

DONALD RHEAULT NO

"I am opposed to the Berkshire Power Plant for the following reasons:

"(1) This plant will use 1.5 million gallons of drinking water every day. When the supply of water is scarce, money will not replace it. 2) These buildings are massive and 70 percent of them exceed our building code height limits. This type of industry does not conform to either our present industrial park or the small town character we are trying to protect.

"(3) The process for approval was flawed from the very beginning. Agawam residents were denied a fundamental right to express their opinion concerning the power plant.

"(4) Finally, BP has taken a 'money is no object' approach in promoting this project. BP has placed a key Johnson supporter on their payroll. BP has shown no regard for our local town boards whose sole purpose is to protect Agawam's citizens. BP has brought lawsuits against our citizens, and BP

is involved in the most divisive, controversial project that has ever come to Agawam. I question its value."

LOUIS RUSSO NO

"I have always stated that it is no longer a question of whether or not to support a power plant, but whether or not we want to do business with an outfit like Berkshire Power. They came to us claiming to be good neighbors, yet their record proves they are not even good friends and will do anything to have their way.

"They say whatever they think everyone wants to hear, yet their record proves that we cannot believe anything they say. More importantly, it is what they don't say that should be considered because it has been proven they don't want us to know all the facts."

"Also, as everyone now knows, they have threatened and sued our neighbors, bought off whoever they could, attempted to bribe those they couldn't, sue our town and its citizens, and misled and submitted false information to state and local boards and commissions.

"Further, they have used some of our elected officials against us, attempted to influence our elections in general and the ballot question in particular, and simply are not nice people. What better reasons do we need to vote against them?"

JILL SIMPSON (I) YES

"I will vote Yes on Question One. I support the Berkshire Power Project, primarily for the economic benefit to be realized by the Town of Agawam.

"I believe that environmental issues have been studied thoroughly by experts and have been determined to have a negligible impact on the host community. In fact, there will be a net improvement as the older and dirtier plants are taken off line. The plant will be located in an industrial zone and once on line will have essentially no impact on traffic, noise, and city services.

"The settlement between BP and the Board of Appeals provides for a list of conditions that further protects the community. In addition, despite the DPU ruling, BP is still willing to work with abutters to minimize impact of the project."

DAVID SKOLNICK (I) NO

"I am on record as opposed to the building of the Berkshire Power Plant. It is NOT in harmony with the character of our town. The health of our citizens far outweighs whatever monetary gains we would receive."

KARL H. STIEG NO

"Berkshire Power has demonstrated by their actions they do not deserve your trust and are unworthy of your consideration. They have misinformed our citizens, sued the town and your friends and neighbors, bullied, picketed, and intimidated our citizens and businesses for speaking the truth.

"BP also had the state DPU override our zoning by-laws. For these and environmental reasons, I STRONGLY OPPOSE BP."

GARY SUFFRITI (I) NO

"From the beginning, I have questioned the Berkshire Power Project, and as time passed, my position was never a secret. I think it was incredible that the residents were denied a chance to voice their opinion in a referendum vote on this in the 1995 election.

"For me, this is a water issue and an environmental issue. Also, it is a quality of life issue for the good families of Agawam. I believe what has gone on to promote and push this project over the past few years is outrageous and that the citizens of Agawam deserve much, much better. This issue has divided our community and once again, the citizens of Agawam deserve much, much better."

NANCY E. THOMPSON (I) YES

"After completing extensive research, readings, discussions with professionals in the field, and touring electrical generating plants, I believe that Berkshire Power will be a benefit to all of Agawam. BP will use state-of-the-art technology and will take off line those older electrical generating plants that are creating harm in our environment.

"Review of factual data on water use, emissions, plume effect, stack height, and the effect on real estate valuation all indicate that BP will be a safe and appropriate industry for Agawam which will bring with it many economic advantages.

"Deregulation of the electric industry is already in process. The Massachusetts Legislature not only supports but encourages all municipalities to develop in-lieu-of-tax agreements with power plants. I will work with all involved parties to ensure the best economic package, in-lieu-of-tax agreement for Agawam."

ROBERT M. YOUNG YES

"I would first like to thank those members of the community who fought hard and long so we may have the opportunity to voice our opinion via referendum on this upcoming election day.

"After much research and discussions with many citizens, several quite knowledgeable on the subject, I will be voting YES on November 4th on the referendum question in favor of Berkshire Power. I have based my decision on the following benefits: this will be the cleanest, most state-of-the-art power producing plant in Massachusetts. BP will become the largest taxpayer in Agawam, contributing more in taxes than the entire industrial park currently put together, and the addition of the large and much needed athletic field space.

"In conclusion, please rest assured that I will continue to study this critical issue to the Town of Agawam with an eye towards any detail which might be truly detrimental to the people of Agawam."

LEGAL NOTICE**LEGAL NOTICE****TOWN OF AGAWAM
BOARD OF APPEALS**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing at the Agawam Middle School Cafeteria, 68 Main St., Agawam, MA on THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1997, at 6:45 P.M. for all parties interested in the appeal of GENESIS HEALTH VENTURES, INC. (HERITAGE WOODS), which is seeking a Special Use Permit in accordance with Section 180-1 of the Zoning Ordinances, which would allow for the construction of a three foot high platform "stage" and "tent" for an outdoor concert at the premises identified as: 462 MAIN STREET

Ronald A. Hebert, Chairman

Published: October 30, 1997

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Paid for by Nancy E. Thompson Agawam

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Re-Elect
NANCY E. THOMPSON
Agawam City Council



- Council President - 1995 & 1996
- President Mass. Municipal Councilors' Association
- Agawam Council on Aging - member for 8 years
- Secretary - Agawam Italian Sister City Commission
- Registered Nurse
- B.S. & M.S. - University of Massachusetts/Amherst

PULL LEVER 17A

It's time to support cooperation.

It's time to support the mayor in getting the best deal possible from Berkshire Power for all the citizens of Agawam.

It's time to support job growth and progress in Agawam.

It's time to support quality education.

It's time to write-in your

support for
Abe Kasparian
as a Town
Councilor

**Write-in Abe Kasparian for
Agawam Town Council.**

Bring this coupon to the voting booth
November 4th. Be sure to ask pole workers
for assistance in writing-in your choice.

Political advertisement paid for by
The Committee to Elect Abe Kasparian



Write-in Abe Kasparian
Town Councilor

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Abe Kasparian.

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For a Better Agawam

PLEASE VOTE

Nov. 4th
Polls Open 8am - 8pm

After studying the candidates, the following would be an asset
to our town government.

MAYOR

Christopher C. Johnson - lever no. 1

COUNCIL

Robert Young
Christian Quatrone
Nancy Thompson
William Euliano
Jill Simpson
Robert Magovern
George Bitzas
Gary Geiger
John Negrucci

**With many documents
to study, Truth in Politics supports
Question No. 1.**

Question ONE

“Should Berkshire Power construct and operate a power
plant in the town of Agawam?”

VOTE YES

Campaign '97 - continued...

Mayor Candidates Trade Shots On Tax Hike Claim

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

A campaign statement by mayoral challenger Kent P. Servis charging that taxes will be going up next year to pay for several capital improvement projects drew a vehement denial from incumbent Mayor Christopher C. Johnson.

Citing the Mayor's "bragging about his no new taxes program," Servis, the Town Council president, said, "Just wait until next year when we, the taxpayers, have to start paying off the bonds on the new fire station, the golf course, the school additions, and Tuckahoe Turf Farm."

But, Johnson said the town has already started paying off the permanent bonds on the fire station and the Tuckahoe Turf Farm without raising taxes for the last two years. Bond payments for the five school expansion projects will begin in two years (when the town will be receiving 71 percent reimbursement from the state's School Building Assistance Funds, according to Johnson).

Defending the capital improvement plan which was included in the town's operating budget and was approved by Servis for the last two years, Johnson said, "If he is critical of those projects, I can only conclude he does not support the acquisition of open space, the construction of the new fire station, or the expansion of the schools."

Time To Pay

Servis responded, "Of course I support open space and the school expansion projects. I know we needed the fire station and I'm glad we have it. However, I'm just saying we're going to have to start paying for it."

Johnson said whether taxes will go up depends on a number of factors, including the amount of state aid the town receives, the status of new growth in the tax base, and the requests for funding from the various town department heads.

"I'm not saying taxes will never go up," Johnson said. "Whether we engage in capital improvements or not, the cost of doing business goes up. The capital improvement plan I have put forward and Mr. Servis has approved is based not on overriding Prop 2½, but on a reasonable revenue stream coming into town."

Furthermore, Johnson said his opponent should know that the debt service on the Agawam Municipal Golf Course has "absolutely no impact on the tax rate" because the last two town budgets showed the costs of running the golf course, including the bond payment, were funded by the revenue raised through fees paid by the golf course patrons.

"The bottom line is our financial condition is very strong," Johnson said. "During my tenure, our bond rating has gone from BBB to A-plus. Since 1995, Standard and Poor's has increased our bond rating twice, to B and then to A-plus, based on our conservative financial management. One of the things they specifically look at is your capital improvement plan and how you plan to fund it."

Candidates State Positions At Chamber Of Commerce Forum

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Last week's candidates' forum sponsored by the Agawam Chamber of Commerce gave hopefuls in the School Committee and Town Council races their only chance to present their views to the voters in a televised forum. For the mayoral candidates, it was the second night in a row the two squared off in a question and answer session.

Mayor Christopher C. Johnson and challenger Council President Kent P. Servis each gave one minute opening and closing statements and answered the same four questions posed by moderator Brenda Garton of TV22.

The candidates agreed on the fairness of the present two tier tax system that assesses industrial property at a rate 30 percent higher than residential property, and the need for unity among local mayors and selectmen in making sure the needs of Western Mass. are heard in Boston.

Servis said more attention needed to be paid to improving sidewalks and he advocated a recreation center for youngsters, construction of a DPW garage, and expansion of the Senior Center before the year 2000 as planned by the Mayor.

After 20 years of neglect, Johnson said his administration started to move the town forward with the completion of a new fire headquarters and the largest school expansion project in the town's history. Johnson said his top priority was a new DPW garage & expansion of the library, Senior Center & Town Hall have all been part of his capital improvement plan for the last 8 years.

Council candidates were allowed 30 second opening and closing remarks, and each candidate was asked to respond to two randomly selected questions. No questions were asked of the School Committee candidates, but the six incumbents and newcomer Deborah Sekula had two minutes to make a campaign statement.

Council candidates answered two randomly drawn questions on promoting job creation, the Berkshire Power plant, expansion of the library, recreation and open space, ways to make Agawam a more attractive community, and balancing growth with community expectations.

Although not all the candidates received questions relating to their individual areas of expertise, Michael Del Negro hit the jackpot. Laughter rippled through the audience when Del Negro was asked how he would vote on the Berkshire Power ballot question. An outspoken critic of the power plant, Del Negro said, "I'm opposed to Berkshire Power. It's not right for the community and I'm opposed to a power plant anywhere (in town)."

Providing Effective Education For All Students

A School Committee member for more than 25 years, Roberta Doering said the committee was

charged with the difficult task of providing an effective education for all the students while making sure the taxpayers' dollars are well spent. Mrs. Doering said the committee must serve as the leading advocate on behalf of all students to make sure they have the necessary tools for learning.

Seeking a fifth term, Linda Galarneau highlighted some key areas of improvement within the School Department, including rewriting the curriculum, hiring a curriculum director, new leadership at the School Department, a new administrative team at the High School, state-of-the-art computer technology, and review of pupil services personnel. "The work is far from done, but it's a good start," Mrs. Galarneau said.

Incumbent Teresa Kozloski spoke of the importance of maintaining high academic standards to avoid a "dumbing down" of the curriculum and called for a review of the vocational education being offered by the School Department.

Mrs. Kozloski pledged to insist on receiving specific facts based on research before making decisions. "I believe I can see through the political rhetoric," Mrs. Kozloski said. "I'm not one to bend to someone else's influence."

Taking a novel approach, and bringing down the house in the process, incumbent Louis Massoia ended his remarks singing a campaign song to the tune of "Ta-Ra-Ra-Boom-Dee-Ay."

Before entertaining the audience, Massoia spoke of the expense of sending Special Education students to out-of-district placements for services not provided by the School Department. Massoia said the School Department is spending \$637,000 to send 15 students to private schools and he urged the creation of an alternative program at the High School to bring those students back to Agawam.

Running for a fourth term, Susan Pettazzoni discussed her record of service to the school system dating back to 1983 as a PTO volunteer and as an elected official since 1991. Among the highlights of her three terms on the School Committee, Mrs. Pettazzoni included the creation of a Special Education Classroom Program at James Clark School (that saves the School Department \$60,000 to \$100,000 each year), and the initiation of a review of pupil personnel services. Mrs. Pettazzoni promised continued fiscal responsibility.

Incumbent Rosemary Sandlin said she brought the issue of full day kindergarten to the table in addition to serving on the District Learning Team, the sub-committee working on team teaching at the Junior High School, and the technology committee.

SEE CHAMBER - Page 32...

best
local
news

Vote To Elect

Robert A.
MAGOVERN



Agawam City Council

- ★ Agawam Native
- ★ Graduate Agawam High School Class of '61
- ★ Former Member Conservation Commission
- ★ Graduate Boston University
- ★ Local Business Owner

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SERVE YOU, The People of Agawam**

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Re-Elect Dennis J. Perry City Council



Why vote Dennis J. Perry?

- * He will represent you as an independent voice for the people of Agawam.
- * He uses good common sense in making decisions for our community.
- * His business experience helps him make the best financial and budgetary decisions for the town.
- * He will not let himself get involved in the petty in-fighting and has always respected the views of his fellow councilors.
- * **A Vote For Dennis Is A Vote For The Future Of Agawam**

**Please consider Dennis J. Perry
For
City Council**

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Dennis J. Perry.

STEVE BROUILLETTE HAS A LOT OF GOOD REASONS FOR VOTING YES ON QUESTION ONE



DANIELLE AND MIKE ARE ONLY TWO.

Agawam has been my home for nearly all my life. I hope that it will be my children's and maybe even their kid's as well.

I want Danielle and Mike to get a good education in Agawam's Schools. I hope they'll be able to find a job and buy a house here.

All of us have hopes for our families. I believe that The Berkshire Power Plant could be big part of making those hopes become a reality. I believe the plant means a cleaner environment for Agawam and I *know* that *it means jobs* and economic opportunity.

I worked hard to become a certified power plant engineer. Unfortunately, no opportunities in the field have been available to me here.

As a licensed power plant engineer, I am convinced that The Department of Public Utilities and The Massachusetts Energy Facilities Sitings Board knew what they were doing when they approved The Berkshire Power Plant for Agawam. I also know that this will be one of the cleanest and safest plants of its kind in the world.

The Berkshire Power Plant **means jobs**, including more than **250 Union construction jobs**. Agreements with Agawam will insure that qualified local residents will get the **first opportunity** at these jobs.

The project means more than just jobs today. It means jobs, tax revenues and low cost energy for years to come so that Agawam will insure that qualified local residents will get the first opportunity at these jobs.

It's no secret that our region has had a tough time competing for new jobs against the lure of cheaper electric rates in Southern States. It's time to give Agawam a fighting chance. That's why my family and I are voting Yes on Question One.

PLEASE VOTE YES ON QUESTION ONE.

Campaign '97 - continued...**Kasparian Seeks Support For His Write-In Candidacy**

In a press release issued this week, Abe Kasparian, Jr., stated, "I'd like to take this opportunity to formally announce my candidacy as a **write-in candidate for Agawam City Council**."

"I would like to be given an opportunity to be a member of the Agawam City Council. I think it is time for all of Agawam to come together in the spirit of cooperation to move ahead towards progress and prosperity."

"I would like to support the following initiatives as a member of the City Council:

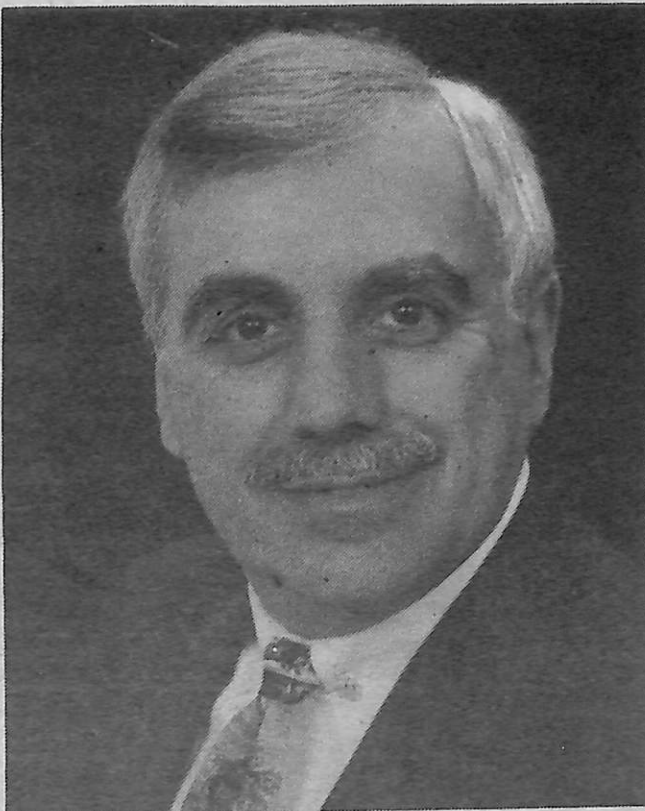
"1. To set a time at each council meeting, right after citizen speak time, for the mayor to address the council. Not a time for council members to debate the mayor, but this "mayor speak time" would be purely informational to the residents, as well as the council, as to events that are taking place in the community.

"2. To improve the professionalism of the council and to create an atmosphere that is user-friendly to business and industry seeking to make Agawam their home.

"3. To foster strong after-school programs that are recognized and guided by the school department such as the Agawam High Model Congress and to develop a matching funds formula for this and other types of after-school programs so as to continue to encourage our students to take part in these extracurricular activities.

"I feel that I would be an important asset on the city council because in addition to the above initiatives that I would like to see happen, I would like to work towards the ownership of our own senior center rather than rent from the State as we do currently; work to build a new DPW garage; work towards the development of the Bowles Rd. extension linking Route 57 to the industrial park; and to increase the open space owned by the city by approximately 40 percent through the acquisition of 173 acres of county-owned land through no cost to the taxpayers of Agawam.

"As a member of the council, I would be working together with the other councilors and focus on the nearly \$120,000 that is currently paid to the



ABE KASPARIAN

County per year, and is earmarked to be paid to the State starting in July 1998.

"If this money is retained in the budget of the city, that money alone would have paid for the mayor's position, all of the city council positions, as well as all the school committee positions each and every year. I believe that this is an attainable goal working together with our State Representative and State Senator as we will with the county land.

"I come with education, experience, and a desire to serve my community and work with the other councilors to forge a partnership between the city council and the mayor's office to obtain these goals for all the citizens of Agawam.

"You will not see my name on the ballot. I need your support to make these initiatives a reality. If you believe as I do ... **write in Abe Kasparian for Agawam City Council**," concluded Kasparian.

Johnson To Hold Family Fundraiser On Sat., Nov. 1st

The Committee to Re-Elect Mayor Christopher C. Johnson cordially invites you to attend a ham and bean dinner on Saturday, November 1st, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Polish American Club, 139 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills, MA.

The donation is \$5 for adults, and \$3 for children under 12.

Tickets are available at the door.

Councilor Perry Plans Nov. 2 Coffee Hour

Town Councilor Dennis J. Perry invites the public to join him on Sunday, November 2nd, at the American Legion Post 185 at 478 Springfield Street from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. for a "Meet the Candidate" coffee hour.

Come and meet Councilor Perry and enjoy free refreshments. He will be happy to hear your views and discuss the issues with you.

CHAMBER - from Page 30...

Dedicated to ensuring students have a safe learning environment, Mrs. Sandlin hopes to bring a bully prevention program to all levels, beginning in the elementary schools.

"I have been and will continue to be an aggressive member of the School Committee," Mrs. Sandlin said.

First-Time Candidate

Launching her first bid for seat on the School Committee, Deborah Sekula said the board should include parents who presently have children attending the schools.

"I make no promises about what I hope to change in the future," Mrs. Sekula said. "I can only promise I will be a dedicated school committee member."

Mrs. Sekula serves on the Playscape Committee, the Middle School Council and PTO, Phelps PTO, and the District Learning Team.

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**KARL STIEG
for
CITY COUNCIL****WHERE DOES KARL STAND ON THE ISSUES?**

- 1. BERKSHIRE POWER:** The proposed plant will pollute our air, waste our water, and destroy the character of our community.
- 2. SCHOOLS:** The Town Council must take a lead role in restoring our schools to the highest levels of educational excellence.
- 3. TAXES:** With careful attention to waste and unnecessary expenditures, I believe that the Council may be able to **cut our taxes!**
- 4. SENIOR CITIZENS:** The senior citizens of Agawam are tired of empty promises. They are entitled to our quick action to truly improve their quality of life in Agawam.
- 5. HONESTY IN AGAWAM'S GOVERNMENT:** The Council's number one responsibility is to assure that there is honesty and integrity on all levels of our municipal government. The council has accepted less than the complete truth for far too long.
- 6. THE RIGHT OF THE CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:** I fully support the rights of our citizens to be heard via referendum. The views of the Mayor and Council are important but never more important than the opinions of the citizens that they serve.
- 7. ZONING REFORM:** In order to protect our property values we must develop a master plan for Agawam and enact clear and consistent zoning measures.

KARL'S BACKGROUND

- MARKETING REPRESENTATIVE FOR TRI-STATE EXPEDITED SERVICE, INC.
- 15 YEARS BUSINESS MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE.
- APPOINTED TO CITY OF HARTFORD ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD.
- FORMER STATE AFL-CIO REPRESENTATIVE TO CONNECTICUT LEGISLATURE.
- U.S. ARMY VETERAN.
- BOARD MEMBER OF UCONN THOMAS J. DODD RESEARCH CENTER, RAILROAD ARCHIVES COMMITTEE.
- BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SACRED HEART ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.
- COACHED IN-TOWN AND SUBURBAN GIRLS' SOFTBALL.

ON NOVEMBER 4TH THE FUTURE OF AGAWAM RESTS IN YOUR HANDS. KARL STIEG HAS WORKED HARD FOR THE CITIZENS OF AGAWAM AND NOW HE IS ASKING FOR YOUR VOTE.

PLEASE PULL LEVER 24.

**STIEG HAS STOOD UP FOR YOU,
NOW STAND UP FOR HIM!**

Paid for by Karl Stieg, Agawam

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**VOTE
Pull Lever 32A**

**Rosemary
Sandlin**
Agawam School Committee

VOTE

**Tuesday, November 4th
8:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.**

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Rosemary Sandlin
Frank Sacco, Treasurer

Campaign '97 - continued...



MAYOR Christopher C. Johnson received endorsements for his campaign from five of his mayor colleagues from around Western Mass. as well as Governor Paul Cellucci. Council candidate Robert Magovern also received Cellucci's endorsement. In top photo, from left - Mayor Richard Sullivan, Westfield; Mayor Michael Tautznik, Easthampton; Mayor Michael Albano, Springfield; Mayor Johnson; Mayor Daniel Szostkiewicz, Holyoke; and Mayor Richard Kos, Chicopee. IN PHOTO AT RIGHT, Johnson and Magovern (center) received the endorsement and well wishes from Governor Paul Cellucci at Johnson's breakfast fundraiser on October 23rd. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

**Best
Local
News!**



Cellucci, Mayors Give Johnson Ringing Endorsement

The Committee to Re-Elect Chris Johnson held a breakfast fundraiser on October 23rd at the Oaks Banquet Facility. Governor Paul Cellucci was the guest of honor at the event, and he was joined by over 150 Johnson supporters.

Governor Cellucci praised Johnson's record of success and achievement as Mayor of Agawam, and formally endorsed his candidacy for re-election.

All the area mayors also turned out to support Johnson's re-election effort. Mayor Michael Albano of Springfield reiterated his support for Johnson and noted that Chris is the senior mayor in the Greater Springfield area and he has provided support and guidance to all the area mayors. Mayor Albano was joined by Mayor Richard Sullivan of Westfield, Mayor Daniel Szostkiewicz of Holyoke, Mayor Richard Kos of Chicopee, and Mayor Michael Tautznik of Easthampton at the event.

Johnson said, "I am really honored that all my fellow mayors came to support my re-election effort. I have enjoyed working with my counterparts in furthering the interests of the Pioneer Valley, and I look forward to continuing our efforts to improve Western Massachusetts. This area is truly fortunate to be served by such a group of professional, hard working community leaders."

Third Democrat Upset About Endorsements In Committee Ad

Douglas W. Bodman, a member of the Agawam Democratic Town Committee, today refuted his name being used in a paid political advertisement on October 2nd in *The Advertiser News* by the Democratic Town Committee. Bodman's name was included as a sponsor of some candidates being endorsed by the town committee for the town's October 7th Primary.

Bodman said, "I did not and would not endorse some of these candidates. I have never given anyone authorization to use my name in support of these candidates."

"I am a member of the Agawam Democratic Committee and if they met and voted to endorse these candidates, I was not present and the endorsement comes from the committee as a whole, not from individuals," said Bodman.

best local news...

Magovern Poll Workers Wanted

The committee to elect Bob Magovern to the Agawam City Council would like to invite anyone who is interested in working at the polls to join them on November 4, 1997.

Opportunities are available at the various polls, with flexible hours.

If you are interested, please call Bob at 789-0171.

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Do The Right Thing...
Vote For Bob Magovern On Nov. 4
He'll Do What's Right For Agawam

Vote To Elect

Robert A.
MAGOVERN

Agawam City Council



- ★ Agawam Native
- ★ Graduate Agawam High School Class of '61
- ★ Former Member Conservation Commission
- ★ Graduate Boston University
- ★ Local Business Owner

**PLEASE ALLOW ME THE PRIVILEGE TO SERVE YOU,
The People of Agawam**

Paid For By The Magovern Committee

Campaign '97 - continued...

Servis Explains Why He Feels Change Is Needed In Town Govt.

In a campaign statement issued this week, City Council President and Mayoral Candidate Kent Servis said, "I believe I am the right choice for Mayor of Agawam."

"I have exhibited an even-handed and level-headed approach to the issues facing Agawam. As a City Councilor and as Council President, I have always stood up for the average citizen."

"I have led a sharply divided Council down a path of reasonable debate, have eliminated much of the previous bickering, applied the rules fairly, and have restored a sense of dignity and decorum to the Council."

"The Mayor of Agawam has to be the leader of the community. Juggling budgets is not the only criteria for a successful administration. Agawam needs a Mayor who can achieve consensus on issues, and can appreciate the needs of others."

"Agawam needs a new leader who can and will work in a friendly and compassionate manner with those who disagree and with the dedicated employees who work for the Town."

"Just because an administrator has tremendous power, it does not have to be used to its fullest extent, all of the time, and on every issue."

"As a private citizen, I drafted and got passed the Agawam Taxpayer's Bill of Rights. This bill mandated disclosure to citizens with property tax issues, what their rights and remedies were."

Servis continued, "As a City Councilor and a Council President, I supported and voted for resolutions asking the State to increase aid for senior services. I have lobbied State officials and testified at legislative functions for increased funding for home care services for our elderly citizens so that they can enjoy their independence without having to be placed in nursing homes."

"My record on public safety is 100 percent. I have worked for and voted for every single issue that concerns our Police and Fire Departments. I have supported the needs of these departments, and was instrumental in helping the Fire Department obtain a new rescue boat that will meet the growing needs of our riverfront community. I voted for the modernization of the police cruiser fleet and the purchase of the new fire truck."

"I will continue to support the dedicated men and women who serve and protect us. I will work to restore a full-time ambulance to the Feeding Hills Fire Station."

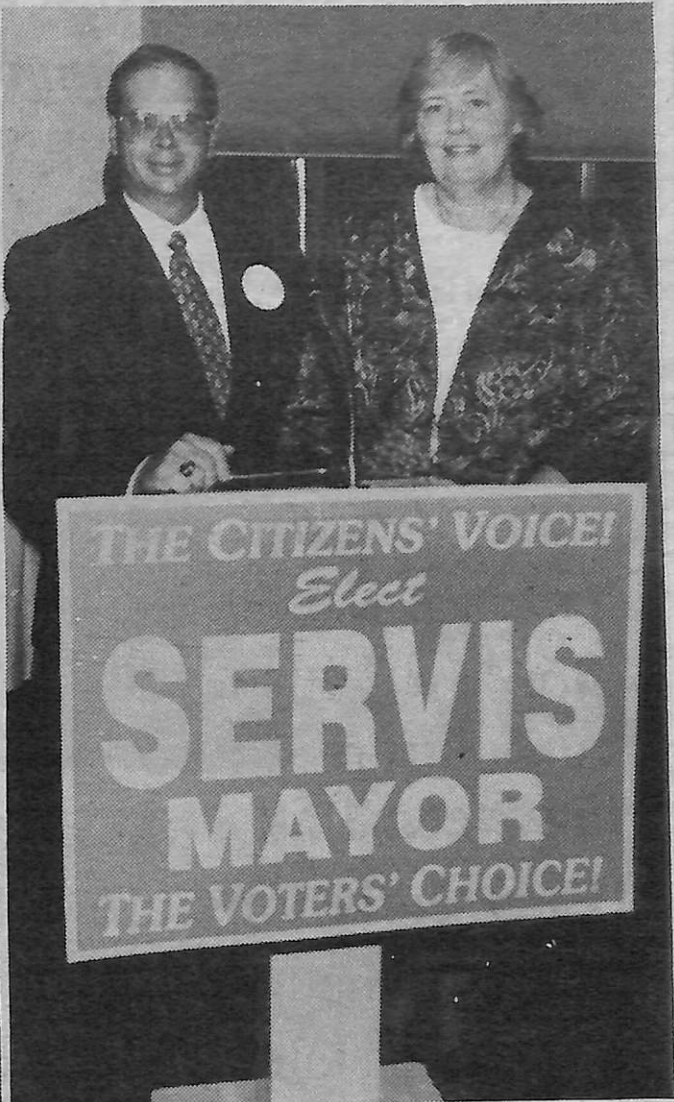
"During a recent debate, Chris Johnson was asked, 'If the ballot question of Berkshire Power was defeated by the voters, will you drop your support for the project?' His answer was, 'NO.'"

"If a Mayor is willing to support a special interest group over the wishes of the people who elected him, then the people's choice for a leader should be clear! Eight years in one office is enough for anyone. On November 4th, the voters of Agawam should send Chris Johnson the same answer he gave to them in the debate ... No!"

"Please cast your vote for the one man who can and will heal the divisions that have torn our town in half. Cast your vote for level-headed and even-tempered leadership. Cast your vote for Kent Servis for Mayor," concluded Servis.



MAYORAL CANDIDATE KENT SERVIS and supporters at his October 24th fundraiser at Oak Ridge Golf Club. From left - Rudy Altobelli, Joanne Tryisa, Peggy & Kent Servis, and Joe & Anna Mineo. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



MAYORAL CANDIDATE KENT SERVIS held a fundraiser on October 24th at Oak Ridge Golf Club. From left - candidate Servis and his campaign manager, Joseph Mineo; IN PHOTO RIGHT, Kent and his wife, Peggy, stand behind one of his campaign signs at Oak Ridge Golf Club. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

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BERKSHIRE POWER AND OUR ENVIRONMENT. THE TRUTH. UNDER OATH.

It's a **fact**, proven through hundreds of hours of testimony, under oath to state and federal regulatory boards.

BERKSHIRE POWER WILL BE ONE OF THE CLEANEST PLANTS IN THE WORLD.

Lower cost power for our region from Berkshire Power is important. But it's *more important* to us that our environment will benefit. Older, dirtier plants will operate less or be retired forever. **Fact.**

Berkshire Power has completed many *lengthy* and *very stringent environmental reviews* that *guarantee* the plant will meet current and future environmental standards well *into the next century*. **Low emissions** are achieved by utilizing natural gas and by incorporating state-of-the-art emission control equipment.

In fact, the Berkshire Power project would **help improve regional air quality**. During the air permit approval process, Berkshire Power **demonstrated** that the operation of the plant

will **help clean up regional air quality**.

It makes sense: just as automobiles built in 1997 are cleaner than those built in the 1950's, so are power plants. And the average age of the existing power plant fleet in New England is over 40 years old.

Because of the project's very **low emission rates**, the **air quality in Agawam** with the operation of the plant will essentially **be identical to what it would be without it operating**.

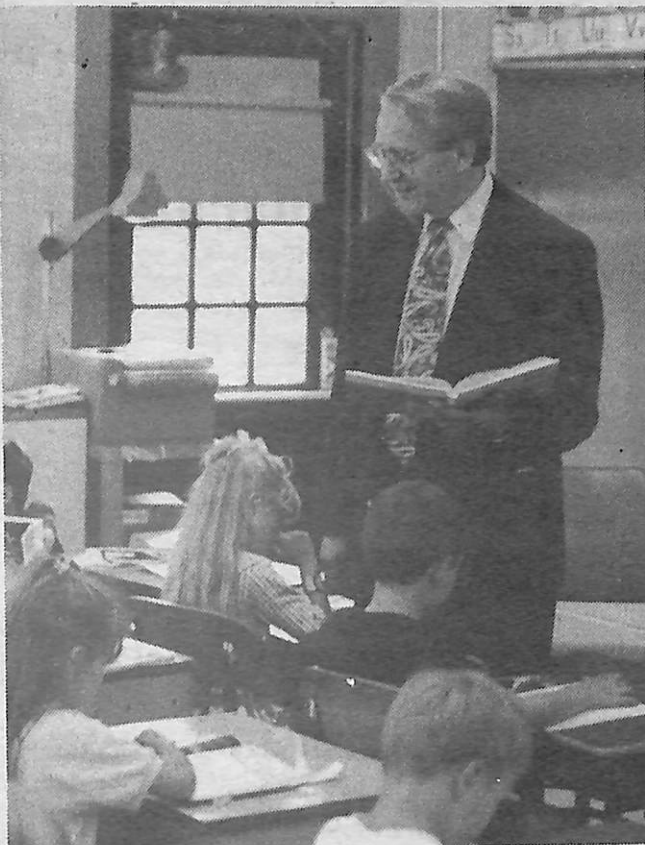
Environmental organizations across the state such as the **Conservation Law Foundation** have opted to **support** the development of new gas fired facilities like Berkshire Power.

Something else to consider: In the three years we've publicly proposed this project, those who make it their job to protect the environment did not intervene against the plant during its **permitting process**. That alone speaks volumes about the issue of environmental protection.

PLEASE VOTE YES ON QUESTION ONE.

Paid for by Berkshire Power

Campaign '97 - continued...



TOWN COUNCILOR GEORGE BITZAS reads aloud to some young students.

Bitzas Strongly Supports Education In Town Of Agawam

"In the past, I successfully opposed cuts in education and I was and continue to be the biggest supporter in helping improve our children's education," said City Councilor George Bitzas, candidate for reelection, in a press statement released this week.

"As a teacher and a father of three school age children, I know the importance of a good school system. Education is the foundation that we build our lives upon. The stronger the foundation is the better our lives will be.

"The money that we spend on education is the best investment for our children and our families, our town, and our country. With your support and vote, I will continue to strongly support and strive to reach for the academic excellence in our schools. I have spoken with administrators many times about the need for the expansion of our schools," said Bitzas.

"In a country such as ours, we should not be using cafeterias and stages for classrooms. Finally we are expanding our schools and in spite of the minor construction problems, we are going to be in excellent shape for the next school year.

"I have always supported our athletic programs and when some people suggested athletic fees, I strongly opposed them. Our schools needed full-time nursing coverage to protect the health and safety of our children and I voted in favor of it and urged other councilors to do the same.

"As your councilor I will continue to support our schools and provide the necessary funding to improve the education of our children," concluded Bitzas.

Simpson Says Campaign '97 Is Much More Than Just Single Issue

"I would like to remind my fellow City Councilors and the citizens of Agawam that there is just more than one issue facing our community," said Jill Simpson, Town Council member and candidate for reelection, in a press statement released this week.

"In my tenure as a City Councilor, I have been especially interested in issues which affect our quality of life, such as zoning, education, and recreation. In the past few years, there has been much discussion of zoning reform. However, nearly every meaningful proposal brought forward to the Council has been defeated.

"As chairperson of the City Council's Zoning Review Committee, I convened a meeting between department heads and town regulatory boards at which a go-forward plan was developed for revision of our zoning by-laws," said Mrs. Simpson.

"Due to the failure of past councils to approve large-scale zoning revisions, we chose to pursue a step-by-step approach to zoning reform. I have worked hard on proposed zoning ordinances which would address temporary signs, home businesses, adult entertainment zones, and industrial zones. I have also supported zoning initiatives from the Planning Board. I would like to emphasize that the effort is in no way intended to restrict growth of small and large business in our community. Rather, we intend to more clearly define the locations in which these businesses may operate so as to protect our residential neighborhoods.

"As a mother of two children who attend

Agawam schools, I am especially interested in supporting the continued improvement of the Agawam educational system. As chairperson of the Council School Budget Sub-Committee, I have worked extensively with the School Committee and members of the administration to develop an understanding of their problems and needs. Our investment in curriculum development has charted a course for the future of Agawam schools and I will support the funding necessary to make the administration's vision a reality.

"As a supporter of youth recreation, I am well aware of the need for additional recreational resources. Our current staff does an outstanding job with field maintenance and administration of recreational programs given their limited resources.

"The need for additional fields has become more significant since the much-needed school expansions, which, unfortunately, came at the expense of recreational space. I would support expanding funding for additional recreational staff and capital improvements to existing and proposed playing fields.

"These and other needs that face our community, such as sidewalk repair, construction of a new DPW garage, and expansion of the Senior Center and the Public Library require a City Council that is proactive and willing to work cooperatively to serve their constituents," said Mrs. Simpson.

"I ask for your support on November 4th, and, above all, please exercise your right to vote," she concluded.

Young Stresses Need To Pay More Attention To Town's School System

In a campaign statement released this week, candidate for Agawam Town Council Robert M. Young said, "I feel that we need to concentrate on defining and prioritizing the needs of our school system.

"I think the Council should continue and increase their support of our School Committee, school administrators, and probably most importantly, the attraction, development, and retention of the best teachers possible.

"Secondly, I feel that we need to follow through on Agawam's much needed capital improvement strategy, including a new DPW garage, an expanded and modernized Senior Center, and additions to the Public Library.

"Additionally, we need to revise or create a new zoning code for our town so as to allow Agawam the ability to avoid the recent events in regards to attracting and retaining new, highly valued by the community, businesses to our town."

Young continued, "Let me state again, I feel that in order to tackle these critical issues, we need 11 Town Councilors working together, and yes, working with the mayor, who are dedicated and who have the education, professional experience, and TRUE leadership abilities to bring

these issues to a satisfactory result for all of us.

"In addition, I believe that the citizens of Agawam have a right to know about any and all issues that affect their well-being and our future and I will work hard to keep the town informed of these issues.

"As your Town Councilor, I pledge to work with the Council to remain focused on these key issues and not let them fall to the wayside until the next election. As a young father who chose Agawam to raise his children, I know that my family and yours will have to live with each and every vote I make as your Town Councilor for a very long time.

"I respectfully ask the people of Agawam and Feeding Hills to support my candidacy so that I can bring my professional work ethic for positive change to the Agawam Town Council," concluded Young.

best local news...

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Campaign '97 - continued...

Governor Cellucci Gives Endorsement To Mayor Johnson

Governor Paul Cellucci was in Agawam on Thursday, October 23, 1997 to attend the breakfast fundraiser for Mayor Christopher C. Johnson. Governor Cellucci addressed the crowd of over 150 supporters and indicated his strong support of the mayor.

Cellucci then formally endorsed Mayor Johnson by saying:

"I am happy to join with you (Johnson) today to endorse your candidacy for re-election as Mayor of Agawam.

"As Mayor, you have represented the people of Agawam with dedication and integrity. Through your leadership, the Agawam Public Schools have improved with significant investments in educational technology, new textbooks, and computers.

"Your administration has spearheaded the largest school construction and renovation project in the city's history, which is fully approved and funded to receive 71 percent reimbursement from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts School Building Assistance Program.

"Under your leadership, Agawam has seen its bond rating improve from BBB to A-plus and has enjoyed two years of property tax reduction. Your active leadership in regional economic development has helped to attract 12 new businesses to the Agawam Regional Industrial Park and has rejuvenated Riverside Park. The city has also seen a 10 percent increase in police patrol officers, additional firefighters, and a new fire headquarters.

"I believe you have earned the trust of the people of Agawam and I ask them to support your bid for re-election on Tuesday, November 4th. I wish you all the best and I look forward to continuing to work with you."

Mayor Johnson said, "I am honored to receive the endorsement of Governor Cellucci. I have enjoyed working with Paul and former Governor Bill Weld on municipal issues in the past, and I look forward to working with Paul on important issues facing Agawam such as Phase II of the Route 57 expansion project, the Bowles Road extension, and the new state veterans' cemetery."



GOVERNOR PAUL CELLUCCI stopped by to give Mayor Chris Johnson his endorsement at Johnson's fundraiser last week. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Bitzas Again Pledges Support To Expand Space For Agawam Public Library

"As your Town Councilor, I have, many times, voiced my concerns for the need to expand our town library," said George Bitzas, candidate for reelection to the Town Council, in a press statement this week.

"The time is here to work together to successfully get the necessary funding so that construction may begin.

"We have grown as a community and more

room is a necessity. Even with the crowded conditions, I would like to commend the library staff for a job well done," said Bitzas.

"The new council must work together to accomplish all of our goals for Agawam. To accomplish and meet our goals, we must be united, working together, cooperating with the administration and the department heads," concluded Bitzas.

Russo Discusses Zoning & Industrial Development Issues

"Agawam has been growing rapidly and will continue to grow. Therefore, it is important that we consider new zoning regulations that will reflect the town's future needs in terms of population and industrial growth," stated Louis Russo, candidate for Agawam City Council, in a press release issued this week.

"Any zoning changes must include the preservation of the character of Agawam, while providing compatible and economically beneficial development within the residential, business, and industrial areas of our town. Prudent development of industrial areas and the continued welcoming of light industrial companies to our industrial parks can only help to alleviate the continual tax burdens placed on our homeowners and provide jobs for our residents.

"I supported and voted for tax incentives for the Industrial Park, which led to a huge influx of new companies that pay their full share of taxes and employ thousands. We must continue to provide an atmosphere that continues to make good, honest, and light industrial companies want to come to Agawam.

"Offering preferential treatment to a single, objectionable group of speculators, and allowing such people to construct objectionable plants, is not the way to lure industry to our town. Such an unfair act will only keep the good companies away because they do not want to be subjected to industrial injustice.

"Agawam has already experienced the loss of several potentially good businesses because of the possibility of an objectionable plant."

Russo continued, "A review of our present zoning and changes in zoning regulations has been discussed during every election. As a former member of the Zoning Review Committee that was formed to revise our zoning, I was part of the committee that came closest to finalizing beneficial changes.

"I had offered an amendment which would have protected hundreds of landowners and businesses while allowing the implementation of new regulations. The amendment would have insured fair treatment of existing property owners while guaranteeing new restrictions for future owners. Unfortunately, there wasn't enough Council support to approve the amendment, thereby defeating the new zoning plan.

"If elected to the Council, I will bring that plan back to the Council table and work to implement it while protecting the interest of the present landowners," concluded Russo.

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Prudential Securities
When: Tuesday, October 28 7:00 PM
Where: Bay Path College, Longmeadow, MA

Admission is free, but space is limited.
Call Debbie Goodwin today at 750-5607 for reservations.

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Campaign '97 - continued...

Candidate Gary Geiger Discusses Issues Facing Agawam's Future

In a campaign statement issued this week, Agawam City Council candidate Gary Geiger said, "Agawam continues to grow at a rapid pace, both residentially and commercially. Our city government must ensure that our public services keep up with this pace.

"As our population continues to grow, so must our municipal departments. We must continue to add manpower to our police and fire departments. We must continue to train and develop our police officers and firemen and make sure that their equipment is maintained and updated on a regular basis.

"We must also continue to upgrade our road and sidewalk system. As our population grows, so does the traffic. There are many secondary roads that are now in need of sidewalks. In my own area of town, a walk or bike ride down South Street or Adams Street can be an unnerving experience. With regard to a new DPW garage, there's no room for debate, let's just get it done. These guys deserve better.

"Nowhere is the growth of Agawam more evident than in our schools. I have two children in James Clark Elementary, and overcrowding is the word of the day. The new additions to the four elementary schools and the high school should help alleviate this problem. Finding funds in the budget to put teachers in these new classrooms and overcrowding at the Middle School appear to be the next hurdles for the town to overcome, educationally.

"I believe education in Agawam has gotten back on the right track. The problems with our schools over the past few years can be attributed to poor leadership. Although I must say that through these bad times, the Agawam High School graduates were still being accepted into some of the best colleges in the country."

Geiger continued, "The School Committee did an outstanding job in hiring Superintendent Ameruso. We now have a hard-working, caring, and approachable administrator heading our schools. With the new administrative team at the high school, things appear to be headed in the right direction.

"One issue that seems to come up every year with regard to the school budget is funding for extracurricular activities such as athletics and music. I will be a staunch supporter of these programs. These activities are fundamental to keeping children off the streets and developing self-confidence, not to mention the scholarship opportunities that they provide for our children.

"Creating opportunities for business to come to Agawam is also in the forefront of town business. We must keep our storefronts full, thereby providing job opportunities for our residents while at the same time boosting our tax base. This in turn will stabilize our tax rate.

"Having parents who are lifelong residents of Agawam and now living on Social Security benefits, I can appreciate the concerns of other senior citizens living on limited incomes. Your concerns regarding increasing taxes and cuts in services can be alleviated with sound business decisions by your Mayor and City Council. This is another issue over which there should be no debate. Services to the elderly can not be cut.

"Many residents have asked my opinion on citizen speak time. Citizen speak time is the time for councilors to hear from their constituents, but the time allotments must be adhered to. Before speaking, speakers are informed of their 10-minute limit. Citizens must tailor their dialogue to their 10-minute time allotments.

"I would like to thank the citizens of Agawam for their support during the primary and ask for your continued support on November 4th. Please, exercise your right to vote!" concluded Geiger.

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM
BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing at the Agawam Middle School Cafeteria, 68 Main St., Agawam, MA on THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1997, at 6:30 P.M. for all parties interested in the appeal of CHARLES CALABRESE, who is seeking a Special Permit to alter a previous Board of Appeals (Case No. 1393) which would allow for a change of the "lot lines" at the premises identified as: 64-66 GARDEN STREET

Ronald A. Hebert, Chairman

Published: October 30, 1997

best local news...

Johnson Continues The Expansion Of Police Services

"During my tenure as mayor, I have worked hard to improve our public safety services," said Mayor Christopher C. Johnson in a campaign statement released this week.

"Agawam is fortunate to have a top quality police department, and many dedicated and hard working police officers. We have increased the number of police patrol officers by over 10 percent in the last three years.

"Most of these new positions have been primarily funded by state and federal grants. In addition to the new police officers, we have increased the number of police dispatchers by 50 percent, which has allowed the successful implementation of Enhanced 9-1-1, centralized dispatch of police and fire vehicles, and taken officers off the desk and put them on the street.

"The Chief and his staff have also been successful in obtaining state and federal grant funds to expand our community policing efforts. The department has expanded its highly successful bicycle patrol program, initiated a citizens police academy, and expanded services to senior citizens. The additional manpower has allowed our D.A.R.E. program to expand into the Junior and Senior High Schools providing a direct and continuous link between our local police and our public schools," said Johnson.

"The Town has made great strides in improving the efficiency and effectiveness of its police services through the introduction of new technology in the department. The department is in the process of upgrading its computer management information system. The computer information system includes computer aided dispatch, electronic report writing, and statistical analysis.

"The system allows officers to complete routine paperwork faster and more professionally which provides more time for service delivery to the public. The system also provides up-to-date information to police supervisors to allow for better planning and manpower deployment in the fight against crime.

"Our police department is amongst the best in the state," said Johnson. "We are fortunate to have many well-educated and dedicated police officers who provide top quality protection to our community. I am very proud of the outstanding services provided by the men and women of our police department, and I pledge my continued support of their vital mission," he concluded.

VOTE NOVEMBER 4
VOTE VOTE VOTE

Happy
Birthday,
Linda



Love,
Tom & Tommy

Rheault Pledges To Maintain Standard Of Professionalism

Town Council candidate Don Rheault has pledged to maintain a high standard of professionalism and to exhibit respect for the position of Town Councilor, if he is elected on November 4th.

Rheault said his prior experience as a councilor will enable him to "focus on the issues, stay on task, and debate issues, not personalities. It's very easy to get sidetracked during debate, but I believe that I have the experience and the maturity to put people before politics," said Rheault.

Rheault believes that you must fight hard for what you believe in, but also work hard towards reaching a common ground among councilors. "Disagreement shouldn't be an us vs. them mentality."

Rheault said that the past two years have, unfortunately, given a new meaning to the term "separation of powers" between the Mayor and the Town Council. "The mayor and the council are not adversaries. They are two necessary branches of government, each with a very unique and important role to play in our form of government."

Rheault said that the mayor has the leadership role in the community while the council provides the necessary checks and balances.

In conclusion, Rheault said, "A councilor's tenure should not be judged in terms of being 'pro-mayor' or 'anti-mayor.' The only judgement should be if a councilor is 'pro-Agawam.'"

Magovern Thanks Voters For Support During '97 Campaign

Robert Magovern, candidate for Agawam City Council, recently spoke about his thoughts on the campaign:

"During this campaign for City Council, I have met with many people. I believe I share with them the belief that Agawam is a great town to live in. I feel that I would be a great resource for the people of Agawam to have on the City Council to let their views be known.

"I grew up in Agawam and graduated from the school system. I want to continue to make the educational system in the town one of the best in the area.

"I would like to ask for everyone's vote on November 4th. I will bring a voice to the Council that will reflect the views of the people of Agawam, not any special interest.

"I will be open to hear all the thoughts and opinions of the people of Agawam," concluded Magovern.

Happy 40th
Birthday,
Donna



Love,
Your Family

Campaign '97 - continued...



LOUIS J. MASSOIA

Massoia Announces Reelection Bid For School Committee

In a statement released this week, Louis Massoia, Jr. of 6 Sequoia Drive, Feeding Hills, announced his bid for re-election to the Agawam School Committee.

Massoia stated that the Education Reform Act of 1993, Section 87, addresses the issue of Alternative Education for students who are chronically disruptive or dropouts. These students, if we are not able to handle them in our own schools, become "Out-of-District" placements. This becomes a very expensive proposition for our school budget.

He said, "Our current budget calls for 'Out-of-District' placements to the total of more than \$1.6 million and involves only 60 students, 20 of which we have placed in the Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative (at a lower cost to our budget than all of the private schools). Fifteen of these 'Out-of-District' placements currently are costing us \$637,000.

"We are currently in the process of adding to our four elementary schools and the High School at a cost of more than \$17 million. With the additional space at the High School, hopefully we can start an Alternative program to bring some of these students back home and save big dollars in the process."

Massoia further states that he hopes that all registered voters would exercise their right and VOTE on TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1997, and that he would appreciate ONE of their six votes for School Committee.

In closing, Massoia would like to have everyone know of his official campaign song, as follows:

"LET'S VOTE FOR LOU TODAY"
(Tune: "Ta-Ra-Ra Boom-De-Ay")
Let's Vote for Lou today, And let's go all the way,
Ta-Ra-Ra Boom-De-Ay, Let's Vote for Lou today.
Let's really hear your voice, When you make Lou
your choice,
Ta-Ra-Ra Boom-De-Ay, Let's Vote for Lou today.
In Lou you have the one, Who really gets things
done,
Ta-Ra-Ra Boom-De-Ay, Let's Vote for Lou today.
You've got six votes that's true, So let's give one
to Lou,
Ta-Ra-Ra Boom-De-Ay, Let's Vote for Lou today.
And when you vote him in, The schools are bound
to win,
Ta-Ra-Ra Boom-De-Ay, Let's Vote for Lou today.
So let's go all the way, With LOU MASSOIA today,
Ta-Ra-Ra Boom-De-Ay, We're going all the way.

NO ONE covers all
the local news like
us, every week
ADVERTISER NEWS

Russo Comments About Town's Open Space And Recreation

"I have been a strong supporter of maintaining open space as a means of preserving Agawam's small-town character and providing additional and adequate recreational facilities for our residents," stated Agawam City Council candidate Louis Russo in a press release issued this week.

"I am pleased to have supported the purchase of Perry Lane Park. I am equally pleased to have supported and voted for the acquisitions of Tuckahoe Turf Farm and the Agawam Country Club.

"With the ownership of these parcels, and some new ideas I will initiate, we have the necessary means to provide year-round recreation to our citizens. The golf course, although primarily a one-sport facility that is utilized by a limited and specialized group, could be used for sledding and cross-country skiing in the winter. Of course, such activities would be dependent upon the amount of snowfall covering the course to prevent any damage, but the possibility exists and should be explored.

"Here in Agawam, we have two great natural assets in the Westfield and Connecticut Rivers. The entire eastern boundary of Agawam borders on these waterways, yet Agawam has no community-sponsored recreational facilities that utilize these wonderful resources. It is my hope to initiate a program, using state and federal grants and volunteerism, to research and institute facilities and activities using our riverfronts.

"Agawam does not have a municipal boat-launching site or riverfront park. However, we did at one time. Pynchon Point, located where the Westfield and Connecticut Rivers meet, was once a park and could be reopened again to include a launch ramp.

"Another riverfront project which I have already begun work on and received commitments for, is a fishing pier over the Connecticut River that will be primarily designed for use by the handicapped

and elderly residents of Agawam. All of the aforementioned programs can easily and inexpensively be instituted with little or no expense to Agawam's citizens. All we need is the willingness to get the job done."

Russo continued, "In terms of Tuckahoe Turf, we have owned it for eight years and have yet to utilize it for the purpose in which it was purchased. At the present time, we are using the property to grow drugs in the form of tobacco.

"Why aren't we using it for soccer, baseball, or cross-country skiing? Why isn't it being used for picnicking, hiking, or fishing? When I voted to support the purchase of Tuckahoe, I envisioned a mini-sports complex that would provide enough athletic fields to meet the needs of our children.

"I also envisioned a picnic area including a pavilion where families could hold reunions and the town's many charitable groups could hold events. Because of Tuckahoe's huge expanse in acreage, we could even consider the possibility of a petting zoo so that our families can have an all-inclusive city park.

"Sadly, though, since acquiring Tuckahoe, we have been letting this beautiful asset lay dormant rather than enabling our citizen owners the enjoyment of its beauty and potential recreational value. Like the other ideas that I have mentioned, much can be done with little or no expense simply by taking advantage of the federal monies that are presently available.

"Some of our elected officials have, for eight years, called for more soccer fields and other recreational areas. We hear the same campaign slogans each election, yet nothing is done.

"Isn't eight years long enough to talk about doing something? I vow, that if elected to the council, the talk will end and action will begin. I vow that I will make every effort to begin using Tuckahoe for the purpose in which its purchase was intended. I vow that the talk will end and action will begin," concluded Russo.

VOTE ON NOVEMBER 4TH!!!

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SERIES

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Start A Tradition

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- 40 Outstanding Colors

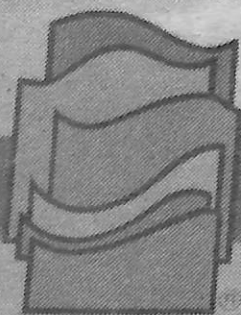
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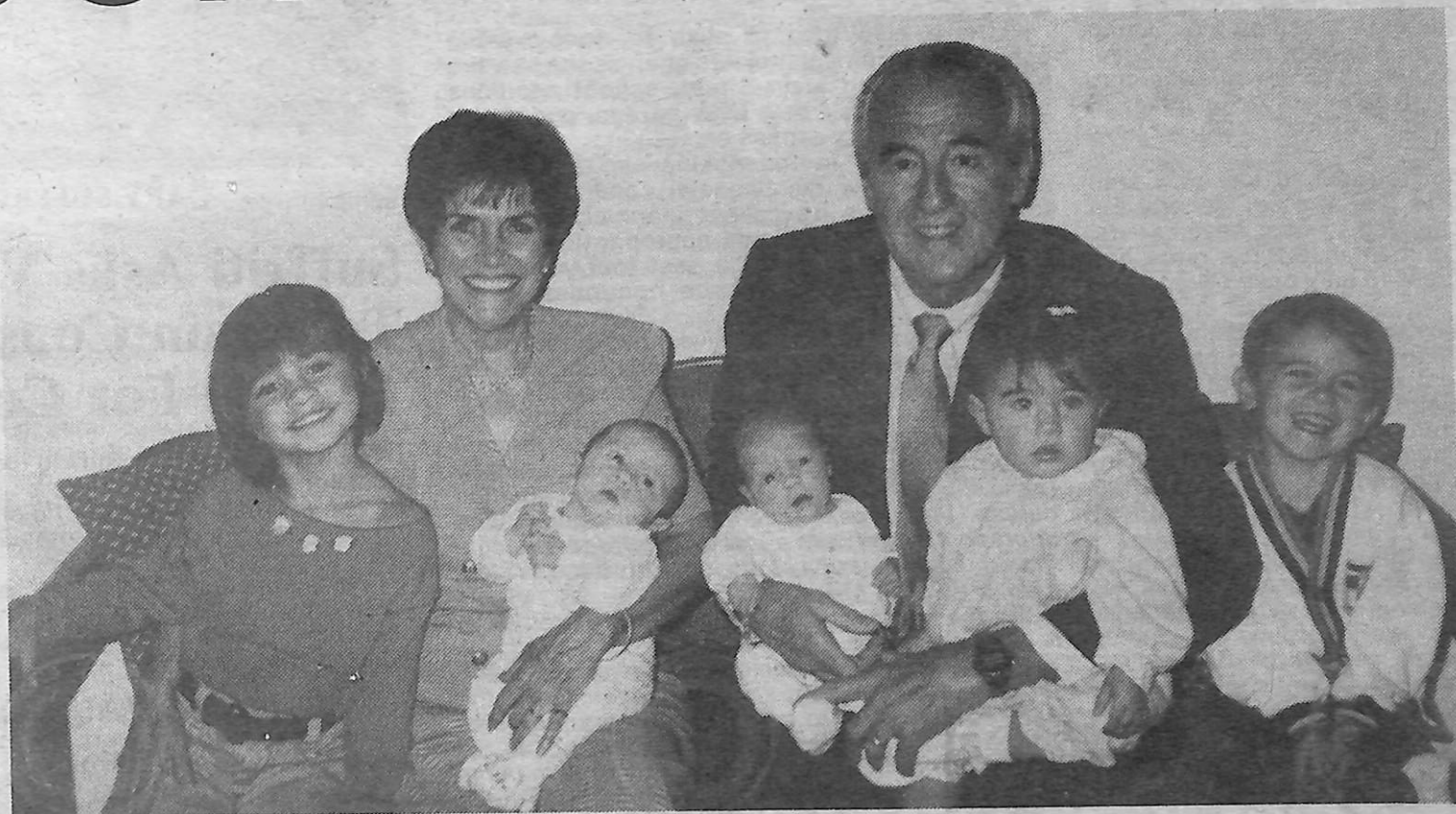
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Paid Political Ad

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STABILITY & RESPECT
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NOVEMBER 4TH

VOTE FOR:
A POSITIVE COUNCIL
JOHN SUPPORTS:

- * New DPW Garage
- * Expand Senior Center
- * Expand Public Library
- * Long-Range Plan For New Town Hall And Municipal Center
- * More Funding For Education
- * More Athletic Fields

ELECT

**NEGRUCCI
FOR COUNCIL**

Campaign '97 - continued...

Johnson Believes His Record On Finances Remains Very Strong

In a campaign statement released this week, Mayor Christopher C. Johnson said, "I have worked hard to improve the financial condition of the town during my tenure as mayor. Initially this was a difficult task given the deep regional economic recession that we experienced in the early 1990's.

"During that period, the State was reducing local aid to the town by millions of dollars each year. The trying times of the economic recession forced us to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of our services by reducing overhead expenses and improving the productivity of our workforce.

"I am proud that Agawam remains one of only a handful of communities in Massachusetts to never seek an override of Proposition 2½. During my tenure (eight years), Agawam has raised real estate taxes by less than 13.75% while the consumer price index has risen by our 28%. In fact, in the last two fiscal years (FY97 and FY98), we have reduced taxes.

"The town has not introduced any new fees such as a solid waste fee, and our general fee schedule has not changed in over seven years. The town has also not increased water rates, and sewer rates were increased only once seven years ago.

"Agawam continues to have one of the lowest single-family tax bills in our area, and has one of the lowest operating budget per capita amounts in all of Massachusetts. I have worked hard to make Agawam an affordable community in which to live and operate a business. Our commercial/industrial tax rate is amongst the lowest in the Greater Springfield area, which helps us attract new businesses to our community.

"I have also worked hard to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of our local government. I have begun the implementation of team management and organized work groups to better manage tasks. I have reduced overhead expenses such as worker's compensation costs and insurance costs through better risk management and new claims-handling procedures.

"The town has undertaken energy audits and implemented energy control and conservation measures to reduce heating and cooling costs. We have literally looked at every line item of the town budget and asked, 'How can we do it better for less?'

"I have also reduced the town's workforce through attrition while, at the same time, improving productivity with the introduction of new computer technology. During my tenure, every office in town hall has seen a reduction in staffing by attrition.

"When an employee leaves or retires, we ask, 'Is this position necessary or can we redistribute

the work to other positions?' The reduction in staff has not resulted in a reduction in services. In fact, through the hard work and dedication of our outstanding public employees, the level of services has actually improved."

Johnson continued, "When I first was elected eight years ago, computer technology was virtually absent from town hall. I have introduced new technology which has improved productivity and reduced costs. I have tried to bring professionalism to our government and with the help of an outstanding management team and a truly dedicated group of town employees, Agawam has made tremendous strides in providing courteous and quality services.

"I have also tried to push for long-overdue capital improvement projects such as the new fire headquarters on Main Street, school additions and renovations, a new DPW garage, and senior center and library expansion.

"A key factor in undertaking capital improvement projects is the financial condition of the town. Agawam is in excellent financial shape. The town has made significant appropriations to the Stabilization Fund over the past four years, and our unreserved fund balance continues to improve.

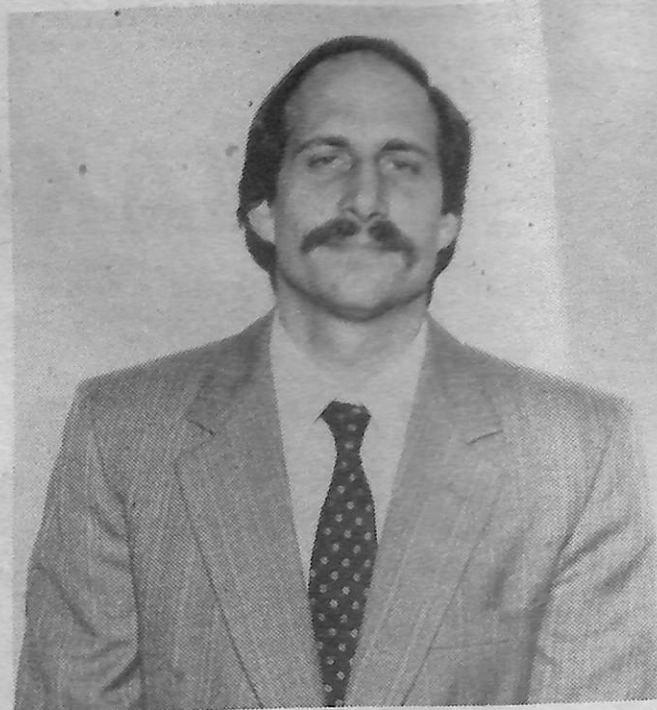
"The town has also received two bond rating improvements from Standard and Poor's in the last two years. In the first bond rating upgrade (from BBB to A), Standard and Poor's said:

"The rating upgrade on Agawam ... reflects strong financial management demonstrated by the ability to maintain a stable financial position during the recent economic recession. The upgrade also reflects a low debt burden and continued diversification of the local tax base." (Standard & Poor's - May 15, 1995.)

"In the second bond rating upgrade (from A to A-plus), Standard & Poor's said:

"The town has demonstrated conservative financial management since the recession of the early 1990's ... up to and including plans for the current fiscal year. This prudence and sound management has resulted in steady growth in the town's unreserved fund balance and stabilization fund." (Standard & Poor's - June 13, 1997.)

"I have tried to be fiscally conservative in the management of the town's financial affairs. The town's financial picture is much brighter than it was eight years ago, and I believe we are positioned for even a brighter future. I pledge to continue to improve the quality of services we provide while maintaining the affordability that we all enjoy," concluded Johnson.



GARY SUFFRITI

Suffriti Asks Voters To Again Consider His Bid For Council

Town Councilor Gary Suffriti today released the following campaign statement:

"You may not see me on the street corner waving or holding a sign, but that does not mean I don't need your vote.

"I've been honored with first, second, and first place finishes in the last three town elections for Town Council, but I realize the more difficult votes that you have to make, the easier it is to lose your support along the way.

"I have always voted on every issue with fairness and from my heart. I do not vote for what would just make me look good.

"I will continue to bring to the council floor 25 years of business experience and a lot of common sense. When some councilors said the in-lieu-of-tax agreement between Berkshire Power and the town was the best agreement for Agawam, I absolutely disagreed and knew full well that the townspeople were getting cheated.

"I am committed to uphold the best interests of all the citizens of our community and I would appreciate your vote to continue my efforts in this direction," concluded Suffriti.

best local news...

Happy 1st Birthday, Andrew Todd!



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Drs. Joseph M. & Katherine S. Schlaffer



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Campaign '97 - continued...**Euliano Outlines Positions On Many Issues Facing Town**

In a campaign statement issued this week, Agawam Town Council candidate William Euliano stated his position on the following issues of local concern.

BOWLES RD. EXTENSION

"This is a worthy project that isolates exposure to our residential areas and provides direct access to our industrial park and major connectors (Route 57 & I-91)."

EDUCATION

"As a City Councilor, one advocates education by funding the budget."

ZONING BY-LAW REVISION

"To have a clear vision, we need to develop a new map and examine our goals and needs both short- and long-term. Revision cannot fix existing and antiquated zoning, but it can be an insurance policy in the future."

CHARTER REVISION

"Can only be accomplished by an elected Charter Review Commission. The spirit of the charter is very adequate. The key issue there is clarification of the language."

OPEN SPACE

"Conversion of these assets is a priority. Our vision should be general recreation areas, ball fields, walking trails, etc. Utilization of open space for the general population is key."

GATEWAY PROJECTS

"Cooperative effort from the Beautification Committee, Chamber of Commerce, City Council, and administration reinforces our commitment to the business community."

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES

• DPW Garage • Library Expansion (a core educational asset) • Senior Center Expansion • Public Safety Complex • Public School Expansion (in progress).

All the local news with us, each week

Anti-Power Plant Group Chastises Berkshire's Poll

Upon examination of Berkshire Power poll results, the Taxpayers for Positive Change Political Action Committee (TPCPAC) has concluded that it is useless and reveals absolutely nothing about the views of Agawam town residents.

TPCPAC asserts that no true statistician would accept the results, and that any single introductory college text on statistics could explain why.

Specifically, TPCPAC refers to the second edition of *Statistics* authored by Messrs. Freedman, Pisani, Purves, and Adhikari (New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 1991). Therein it is noted that a poll's validity depends on several key factors. The Berkshire Power poll fails to meet criteria.

First, one must exclude selection bias so that a sample is a representative cross-section of the community. Berkshire Power has yet to reveal if registered voters were polled, what precincts were polled, or how closely their sample mirrors our Town's genuine socio-economic composition. Nothing at all is known to the public about the makeup of the sample, and the poll is therefore not valid.

Second, a high non-response rate invites bias. Nothing is known about exactly how many people selected for the sample failed to respond. The non-response rate was never reported, and we therefore know nothing about how the non-response rate was figured into calculations. A survey solely based on the views of respondents excludes the views of non-respondents, and is therefore biased. Accurate polling requires multiple attempts, and special weight to those most

difficult to reach. Berkshire Power, however, has yet to reveal their polling methods. Their polling information is therefore not valid.

Third, a handpicked sample invites unintentional bias since human choice always has a bias. It was not reported if automated polling was employed, if the probability method was employed, or whether the flawed quota method was used instead. If human choice was employed in selecting the sample, then the sample itself may not in fact be representative even if it was a valid cross-section of the community.

Fourth, we know nothing about the phrasing of questions, if questions were standardized, or whether the tone and attitude of interviewers may have influenced the response. We do not know what questionnaires were used, or how the performance of interviewers was evaluated. The Gallup poll employs a ballot technique to minimize bias. Whether Berkshire Power did or not is unknown.

Furthermore, not only may there have been bias in sample selection, possible quota sampling, the phrasing of questions, and evaluation of non-response rates—there was no margin of error reported, which essentially means we witnessed a useless stack of meaningless numbers. We know nothing about the standard deviation, or standard error. The professionalism of the survey remains in question.

As one statistics professor once argued, "No margin of error? No validity!" Should anyone associated with the release of these figures seek an introductory crash course in elementary statistics, the Treasurer for TPCPAC will happily volunteer his services.

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Campaign '97 - continued...

Servis Keeping It Clean...



MAYORAL CANDIDATE KENT SERVIS (left) and supporters were cleaning-up a planting area on Suffield Street last Saturday morning. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Stieg Says Top Issue Facing Agawam Is Berkshire Power

"The number one issue in Agawam is the Berkshire Power Plant. This proposed power plant has, for the last three years, divided this community as no other issue ever has," said Town Council candidate Karl Stieg in a campaign statement released this week.

"This division reminds me of the great American tragedy, the Civil War, not with the horrible loss of life caused by that war, but rather the toll in the relationships of families, friends, and neighbors.

"Sadly, some of our citizens have allowed themselves to be manipulated by the promise of monies from Berkshire Power. The promise of monies so powerful that they have lost sight of life's true values," said Stieg, "our love and mutual respect for one's neighbor, our families, our environment, and the community.

"There's no doubt we all want the best education for our children, our seniors needs taken care of, taxes lowered, and to maintain the quality of life. We can obtain this goal together without Berkshire Power's control and monies.

"As your councilor, I will work to bring responsible, environmentally safe and compatible business to Agawam to increase our employment and tax base that will not change the character of our town.

"Are we going to continue to allow a power plant to divide and control our community? No other business in Agawam has been so disrespectful and uncaring as Berkshire Power."

"Berkshire Power is incompatible to our community. Please do not reward their behavior. Please save Agawam and vote no on the ballot question," concluded Stieg.

Negrucchi Asks Voters To Support Him Again On Election Day

John J. Negrucchi, candidate for Agawam City Council, recently asked for the voters' support on November 4th.

"I respectfully ask for one of your 11 votes on November 4th. I have run a positive campaign, discussing the issues and meeting with the voters.

Throughout the campaign, my views and opinions have been expressed for your consideration in an open and honest fashion."

Negrucchi, a former pension fund administrator and past president of the Agawam Lions Club, further explained his style of leadership.

"I listen to the questions, research them, and give decisions based on voter input. My style is not to shoot from the hip. If I do not know an answer to a question, I admit it honestly and without any double-talk. I then research the issues in question, touch base with the voters, and make an educated decision."

Mr. Negrucchi's campaign manager, Anthony C. Bonavita, commented on Negrucchi's campaign.

Bonavita stated, "Working with John, his family, and friends has been a pleasure. John's positive campaign and presentation of issues is an extension of his solid personality.

"I firmly believe John Negrucchi as a councilor will be a great asset to our community. He will most definitely help set a positive agenda and direction for the council."

Negrucchi concluded, "The voters' consideration is appreciated. My family and I sincerely appreciate your input and support during the campaign. It has been a positive experience for me that renews belief that **WE CAN MAKE THE CHANGE.**"

Letellier Fully Maps Her Negative Position On Berkshire Power

"As anyone who has been reading the paper or watching the Council meetings on television knows, I am against the proposed Berkshire Power Plant," said Gina-Marie Letellier, candidate for Agawam Town Council in a statement released this week.

"I was not always in opposition to the plant. Only after I took the time to educate myself did I oppose the plant, and more particularly, its sponsor, Berkshire Power Development, Inc. I am glad to have this opportunity to summarize for the readers of *The Agawam Advertiser News* my reasons for opposing this plant and why I believe that all voters should vote NO on Question 1.

"I would also like to take this opportunity to remind voters that a NO vote on Question 1 is not a vote against a power plant. It is a vote against Berkshire Power's proposed power plant. Lastly, a NO vote on Question 1 is not a wasted vote. The abutters do not have to file their appeal until after the election. Your vote counts now as much as ever.

"Reason number one TO VOTE NO ON THE BERKSHIRE POWER PLANT QUESTION - THE THREAT TO APPLY FOR MANUFACTURING STATUS AND NOT PAY TAXES IS AN EMPTY THREAT.

"Berkshire Power has been threatening for years that it will apply for manufacturing status in order to become exempt from local taxes and not have to pay the same fair share of taxes that every land and business owner pays. This threat is empty. Ken Roberts testified in a Special Town Meeting on June 26, 1995 that when the project is ready to go into construction, 'a partnership will be formed and the name of that partnership will be Berkshire Power Limited Partnership.' Partnerships do not qualify for the tax exemption," said Letellier.

"Most recently, the Department of Public Utilities ruled, while overriding our zoning, that Berkshire Power was a public service corporation. Public service corporations do not qualify for the manufacturing status exemption. Therefore, if Berkshire Power wins an appeal of the DPU decision, they cannot qualify for the exemption they threaten to get. If Berkshire Power loses an appeal of the DPU decision, they will still have to get local zoning approval and the zoning appeal will have to be heard. This will not happen until 1998 at the earliest.

"If Berkshire Power loses an appeal and has to get zoning approval, it will be too late for them to apply for manufacturing status because the law that will come into effect in 1998 removes the manufacturing status exemption. So, in all possible scenarios, Berkshire Power cannot receive manufacturing status exemption.

"Therefore, the only reason they tried to force the Council to accept their in-lieu-of-tax agreement is because they don't want to be a good neighbor and they don't want to pay their fair share of taxes. Ask yourself, has Berkshire Power told me the truth about their qualifications for this exemption?" said Letellier.

"Reason number two TO VOTE NO ON THE BERKSHIRE POWER PLANT QUESTION - THE PROPOSED IN LIEU OF TAX AGREEMENT IS A RIP OFF.

"The proponents of the payment in-lieu-of-tax agreement proposed by Berkshire Power like to ask the opponents, how can you say no to \$1.2 million. My answer is, how can you say not to \$3.5 million? In the preceding section, I have explained why Berkshire Power cannot qualify for the tax exemption they keep threatening us with. So, why

SEE LETELLIER - Page 45...

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Campaign '97 - continued...



TOWN COUNCIL CANDIDATE GINA-MARIE LETELLIER is pictured at an afternoon tea last Sunday at Ellen's Place.

Kasparian Explains Procedure Used For Write-In Candidacy

To write in your vote for candidates who do not appear on the ballot, each voting machine is equipped with a horizontal row of numbered slides, one slide directly above each office column.

Behind these slides, inside the machine, is a roll of paper upon which the voter can, by raising the slide, write the name of any person whose name does not appear upon the ballot.

Each office has its own area to write in an alternate choice above the named candidates.

For the office of Town Council, open a slide in the section for Town Council and write in your choice or choices. You have 11 votes for council. You can use these votes in any combination between candidates on the ballot and any other person or persons you wish to vote for as a write-in.

The slide will close and your write-in votes will register when you open the curtain.

The poll workers will answer any questions you may have about how to write in your choice and/or demonstrate how to raise the slide at your request. Be sure to ask the poll workers for a pen if you do not have one.

Abe Kasparian is the only announced write-in candidate for Agawam Town Council.

"You do have an additional choice. It is my hope that I can gain one of your 11 votes for Town Council as your write-in candidate," said Kasparian.

"Let me thank you in advance for your support and the extra effort it will take to write my name in," he concluded.

LETELLIER - from Page 44...

do I say that the real tax value of the project is \$3.5 million? I am taking Mayor Johnson at his word.

"At an Agawam Rotary Club meeting on Thursday, October 2, 1997, an executive from Western Mass. Electric Company spoke about deregulation of the electric industry in Massachusetts. The executive asked Mayor Johnson how much WMECO would pay in taxes if it built the same plant on the same site. Mayor Johnson answered, 'Three to four million dollars.' If you don't believe me, believe Mayor Johnson. Let's not forget how those extra millions add up over forty (40) years.

"There are a number of other reasons why the proposed in-lieu-of-tax contract is a rip off: no bond for the first 20 years, no additional payments if the plant expands and no renegotiation for forty (40) years are just some," said Letellier.

"Reason number three TO VOTE NO ON THE BERKSHIRE POWER PLANT QUESTION - NO EVACUATION PLAN FOR NEARBY RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES.

"Did you know that residents of Losito Lane, Franklin Street Extension, Shoemaker Lane have no safe way to leave their homes and businesses if there is a problem at the plant. They must drive toward the emergency in order to seek safety.

"Reason number four TO VOTE NO ON THE BERKSHIRE POWER PLANT QUESTION - NO BACKUP WATER PLAN.

"When asked by Councilor Suffriti on Monday, October 20, 1997 what the plant's backup water supply would be, Berkshire Power had no specific plan. They said they would truck in the necessary water. Let's think about this. Berkshire Power will be using 1.5 million gallons of water PER DAY.

"A tanker truck holds 10,000 gallons of liquid. How many tanker trucks would be on our streets day and night to haul water for their backup water supply? How many of those tankers will be directed to your home or business to replenish your water supply?

"Reason number five TO VOTE NO ON THE BERKSHIRE POWER PLANT QUESTION - THEIR LACK OF RESPECT FOR OUR TOWN, OUR LAWS, AND OUR CITIZENS.

"Let's not forget that Berkshire Power has

always promised to be a good neighbor," said Letellier. "They also promised not to go where they were not welcomed. We now know that these promises are as empty as the threat to qualify for a tax exemption. On Monday, October 20, 1997, Councilor Skolnick asked Mr. Ken Roberts of Berkshire Power if they would leave Agawam and take their plant elsewhere if there is a NO vote on the Question. Did Berkshire Power say yes, they would go elsewhere? NO. So, are their promises true? You be the judge.

Berkshire Power's lack of respect for our town and its citizens is manifested in everything they do and say. They have divided our town, perhaps irreparably. They sued our Board of Appeals when they lost. They argued against our citizens right to intervene to defend the town. They applied for an override of our zoning laws. They tried to scare the town and our councilors into accepting their in-lieu-of-tax agreement. They have supported pickets of our local businesses and tried to buy the silence of those that dared to oppose them," said Letellier.

"Reason number six TO VOTE NO ON THE BERKSHIRE POWER PLANT QUESTION - THEIR MANIPULATION OF THE UNIONS.

"Berkshire Power and the unions who will be hired when the proposed plant is built elsewhere have been trying to convince our citizens that the opponents of the plants are holding up needed union jobs. In fact, Berkshire Power is to blame for holding up union jobs. On Monday, October 20, 1997, a union representative testified before the City Council that the union does have the contract to build the plant if it is built in Southwick.

"So, who is holding up the jobs? Berkshire Power had gone to Southwick when they lost at the Board of Appeals, the unions would already be receiving paychecks for constructing the Southwick plant.

"I could go on and on listing all of the reasons not to vote for Berkshire Power. If someone would like to discuss these with me, I welcome the opportunity. If you have read this entire piece, I believe I have given you enough reason to reject Berkshire Power and punish them for the devastation they have wrought on our town. Don't let Berkshire Power buy your integrity or scare you into voting for them. Might does not make right. Please vote NO on Question No. 1 on November 4, 1997," concluded Letellier.

Councilor Perry Announces Candidacy

In a press release issued this week, Agawam City Councilor Dennis J. Perry announced his bid for re-election:

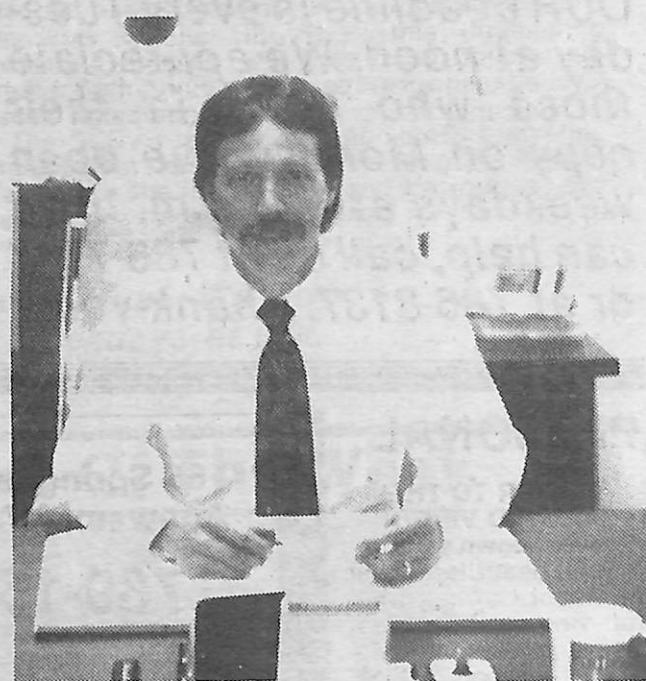
"I would like to thank all of the voters who supported me on primary day. Your support only makes me understand why I elected to put myself in the public eye.

"I am a lifelong resident of Agawam. I have been married to my wife Ann Marie for 19 years. I am the proud father of three daughters: Jessica, 18, Elizabeth, 13, and Samantha, nine, all of whom attend the Agawam public school system.

"My occupation is general manager of Balzers Tool Coating Co., located in Agawam's Industrial Park. Looking back at my first term as your city councilor, I have used my business experience to help me make the right decisions on issues that have come before the council.

"I have tried to put the best interest of our community first. As a candidate, I will not promise you things that I can not deliver. I can promise you that I will work as hard as I can to make Agawam the best it can be.

"Please consider me for one of your votes on November 4th. Thank you," concluded Perry.



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Best local news...

Officialdom Announces That Rte. 57 Phase II Moving Along

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Last week, state and local officials announced a major step along the path of continuing Route 57 from Feeding Hills to the Southwick line after more than 30 years of delays.

State Senator Linda J. Melconian and State Representative Daniel F. Keenan joined Mayor Christopher C. Johnson in announcing the state has begun the land takings necessary to begin Phase II of the Route 57 project.

Altogether, 11 homes must be taken at a cost of \$1.1 million to pave the way for the highway. Two homes on South West Street were taken by eminent domain last week, ending years of speculation and uncertainty for the homeowners who have known for some time that the state would be taking their properties.

"I am excited to see today's continued progress on the Route 57 relocation project," Senator Melconian said. "We are now able to see the light at the end of the highway. We are renewing our commitment to Phase II, the state's largest financial project outside of Boston's Big Dig."

Senator Melconian pledged to be a "watchdog for my constituents" to ensure the completion of the project which has received funding in the state Highway Department's 1996-1998 Transportation Improvement Program.

Johnson said the land takings were an important milestone for the project (because the state has committed to a timetable for completion of the project and because the families who have been in a state of limbo since the project was an-

nounced four years ago can get closure and make plans for the future).

Construction Expected To Begin In 1999

Most of the environmental work has been completed, the design contract has been signed, and construction is expected to begin in the spring of 1999, Johnson said.

Characterizing the Route 57 project as "too short on work and too long on delay," Keenan said completion of the project will assure safer road conditions and fewer traffic bottlenecks for Feeding Hills residents and motorists who use the highway.

Johnson said the same dramatic drop in traffic experienced at the completion of the first phase of the project is expected at Feeding Hills Center, resulting in changes in the traffic pattern at the intersection. The lanes will likely be redrawn, but no construction is expected, Johnson said.

Phase II plans include a full diamond interchange at South Westfield Street (by adding two ramps and a bridge carrying South Westfield Street over the highway), a proposed bridge carrying Southwick Street over the relocated Route 57, with ramp connections between the relocated Route 57 and the existing Route 57 near the town line.

A noise barrier is proposed along the north side of the new highway adjacent to the Memory Lane/Hendon Drive neighborhood, and plans are included to preserve and enhance wetlands and forested areas.



LOCAL OFFICIALS are happy about the land taking for Phase II of the Rte. 57 Extension Project. From left - State Rep. Daniel F. Keenan, resident Nancy Francis, State Senator Linda J. Melconian, and Mayor Christopher C. Johnson. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT OUR deadline is every Tuesday at noon. We appreciate those who bring in their copy on Monday. We open weekdays at 6:30 a.m. If we can help, call us at 786-7747 or at 786-8137. Thank-you.

Agawam Town Council Meeting Agenda For Wednesday, November 5th

1. Citizen's Speak Time
2. Roll Call
3. Moment of Silence and the Pledge of Allegiance
4. Minutes - Regular Council Meeting of 10/20/97
5. Declaration from Council President
6. Presentation of Petitions, Memorials & Remonstrances
 - None.
7. Report of Council Committees
8. Elections
 - None.
9. Public Hearings
 - (a)
 1. PH-97-13-(TOR-97-11)-An Ordinance to amend Agawam Zoning Ordinance, Ch. 180, Art. I, General Provisions Sec. 180-8, Supplementary

Regulations (Membrane covered structures)(Ref. to Ordin. & Zoning Review Comm. on 9/2/97)(Tabled & postponed public hearing on 10/8/97).

10. Old Business

- (a)
 1. TO-97-12-Application for License for two (2) automatic amusement devices for R.L.Z., Inc. - 11 So. End Bridge Circle (Tabled on 3/3/97 - Left on table 3/17/97, 4/7/97, 5/5/97, 6/2/97, 6/19/97, 7/7/97, 8/4/97, 9/2/97, 9/15/97, 10/8/97 & 10/20/97).
 2. TO-97-18-Application for License for two (2) automatic amusement devices for Elbow Ray-Mor, Inc. - 386 Walnut St. Ext., Agawam, MA (Tabled on 3/3/97 - Left on table 3/17/97, 4/7/97, 4/22/97, 5/5/97, 5/19/97, 6/2/97, 6/16/97, 7/7/97, 8/4/97, 9/2/97, 9/16/97, 10/8/97 & 10/20/97).
 3. TO-97-56-Voucher List (\$20.20).

PERSONAL

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN (never known to fail)

O Most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. O Star of the Sea, help me and show me here you are my mother. O Holy Mary Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart, to succor me in my necessity (make request). There are none that can withstand your power. O Mary conceived without sin pray for us who have recourse to thee (three times). Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands (three times). Say this prayer for three consecutive days and then you must publish and it will be granted to you.

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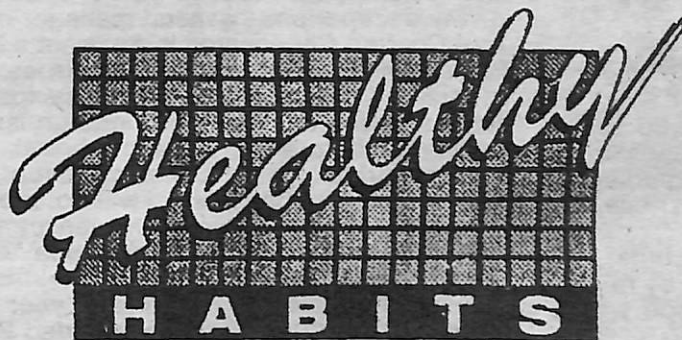
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School Dept. Undertaking In-Depth Study Of Guidance

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Rather than taking a Band-Aid approach to dealing with issues related to the student counseling services provided by the schools, the School Department is undertaking an in-depth study of pupil personnel services with the intention of bringing recommendations revamping guidance and counseling services to the School Committee in February.

School Superintendent Frank Ameruso said school administrators are working with the system's 20 pupil personnel staff members on a 17-step plan designed to assess guidance, psychological, and social services and determine the best way to utilize personnel in providing counseling services for regular and Special Education students.

Sub-Committees To Study Students' Needs

Ameruso said four sub-committees have been formed to study the needs of PreK-12 regular and Special Education students; update the job descriptions of counseling personnel to reflect their current roles; establish school-based pupil personnel teams to assess the kinds of consultant services and professional development that are needed for pupil personnel staff; develop a meeting schedule for all pupil personnel staff; and restructure counseling functions and positions to meet the identified needs of the system.

The sub-committees are made up of principals, guidance counselors, adjustment counselors, substance abuse prevention coordinators, and school psychologists.

Congratulating Ameruso on taking the leadership role in looking at guidance services, School Committee member Linda Galarneau said, "This had been a long time coming. It's been a heated issue over the years, but I was reluctant to add counselors because I knew we needed to look at the whole guidance system."

School Committee member Susan Pettazzoni agreed. "I have not seen such a positive team effort in a long time."

Mrs. Pettazzoni said school systems from across the state are watching the progress of Agawam's review of guidance services with an eye toward using the documentation of the process as a road map for their own systems.

"We're being watched across the state because this has never been done before," Mrs. Pettazzoni said.

A final report, including any restructuring, staffing, or budget implications, is expected to be presented at the School Committee's February 13, 1998 meeting.

Curriculum Director Mary Czajkowski said, "Many of the job descriptions were 10-plus years old and needed to be revised. A questionnaire was distributed to the pupil personnel staff to determine what the needs will be in the future."

The results of the questionnaire will be used in developing the final recommendations on streamlining guidance services.

"They are doing the work. They are the experts and we want them to tell us what they need," Ameruso said.

Agawam Veterans' Council Schedules Sat., November 8th For Flagging Graves

The Agawam Veterans' Council has scheduled Saturday, November 8th as the date to replace worn and tattered flags in all Agawam cemeteries in time for the town's Veterans' Day observance.

Once again we plan to invite area Boy and Girl Scouts to help, and all residents interested in helping out are invited to join in.

The group will meet at the Springfield Street Cemetery at 9:00 a.m. Following the flagging of those graves, we will proceed to the Agawam

Center Cemetery on Main Street to finish the project.

While flagging of veterans' graves for Veterans' Day is not state mandated, it has been a custom in Agawam for many years.

Please call Veterans' Services at Town Hall at 786-0400, ext. 236 if you plan to help, or be at the Springfield Street Cemetery at 9:00 a.m. As always, we appreciate your efforts in paying tribute to our veterans.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT OUR deadline is every Tuesday at noon. We appreciate those who bring in their copy on Monday. We open weekdays at 6:30 a.m. If we can help, call us at 786-7747 or at 786-8137. Thanks.

Keenan Announces Marketing Initiatives To Boost Economy

Greater Springfield Convention And Visitors Bureau Unveils Three High-Tech Marketing Tools

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan recently attended the unveiling of a series of new high-tech marketing tools by the Greater Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau (GSCVB). The presentation featured a new web site, CD-ROM, and video that will serve to bring more visitors and conventions to Springfield and the Pioneer Valley.

Each of these new high-tech marketing tools can be updated and reissued to reflect ongoing development and new initiatives in the Pioneer Valley and greater Springfield region.

The new web site will allow potential visitors, from anywhere in the world, to look up all the reasons why a visit to Springfield and the Pioneer Valley should be on their agenda. The new site can be found at www.springfield.visitor.com, www.valleyvisitor.com, or www.meetmeinspringfield.com.

The program allows visitors to preview area hotels, restaurants, accommodations, and attractions by county. Additionally, a calendar of area events will be maintained and updated for the region.

The CD-ROM combines still photography, video clips, graphics, and narration to present Springfield and the region as a dynamic location for meetings and conventions. As meeting planners become increasingly computer-savvy, and the competition between meeting venues gets tougher, the GSCVB now has cutting-edge tools to present all the features and benefits of holding a meeting or convention in Springfield and the Pioneer Valley.

The "Meet Me In Springfield" video is aimed at marketing Springfield and the Pioneer Valley as a great place to hold meetings and conventions. The video showcases meeting facilities, hotels, attractions, and four-season fun that Springfield and the Pioneer Valley offer to the meeting planner and convention attendees.

"Tourist and convention dollars are an important part of a diversified and strong economy, and the work of the GSCVB in this three-prong marketing program will help bring dollars into greater Springfield and the entire Pioneer Valley," stated Rep. Keenan.

The GSCVB is a private, non-profit marketing organization dedicated to promoting the Pioneer Valley as a site for meetings and conventions and as a leisure travel destination.

Trick or Treat

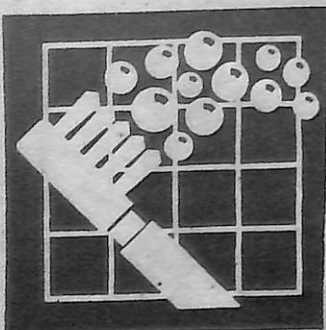
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Opponents File Appeal Of DPU Ruling At Presstime...

Berkshire Power Officials, Mayor Pleased With Decision By State DPU

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

The proposed Berkshire Power project could be under construction within a few months unless plant opponents file an appeal within 20 days of last Wednesday's precedent setting decision of the state Department of Public Utilities exempting Berkshire Power from local zoning.

"We're pleased that the DPU has reached a decision that will finally allow the project to proceed to construction," said project Manager Kenneth Roberts of Power Development Company, Inc. "Berkshire Power will abide by the conditions placed on the project in our agreement with Zoning Board of Appeals. Among other things, these conditions require Berkshire Power to limit construction truck traffic and provide for a number of neighborhood and community benefits."

The proposal to build a 272 megawatt, gas-fired power plant in the industrial park off Shoemaker Lane has been embroiled in a legal battle ever since the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) reached a split decision (2-1) in favor of allowing the construction of structures exceeding the town's 40-foot height limit in January 1996.

After Berkshire Power won a court case challenging the ZBA's assertion that a less than unanimous vote (by the ZBA) constituted a denial, the board agreed not to appeal the decision. Berkshire Power agreed to abide by the 45 conditions set by the board and to pay an additional \$7.4 million to the town for library, recreation, and beautification projects (townwide) and at the Industrial Park over a 40-year period.

An appeal filed by the power plant opponents who were granted status to intervene in the case was heard at the SJC two weeks ago, but a decision is not expected soon and plant proponents say the DPU decision renders the court case a moot point.

Intervenor May File Appeal

A spokesman for the Concerned Citizens and Business of Agawam as well as an intervenor in the case, Dr. Joseph Schlaffer said, "We have a 20-day grace period, but right now it looks like the intervenors have the intention of filing an appeal (at the SJC). We're just not 100 percent certain for now."

A year after the power developers say the delaying tactics of plant opponents forced them to seek an exemption from local zoning, the DPU ruling finds the proposed power plant is "reasonably necessary for the convenience or welfare of the public" and that the plant will be exempt from local zoning by-laws.

Roberts said the DPU did not override nor ignore the concerns expressed by the ZBA.

A strong supporter of the Berkshire Power project, Mayor Christopher C. Johnson said the only effect the DPU decision will have is to change the mode of appeal for the opponents of the plant.

"It's important to note that the DPU decision binds Berkshire Power to all the local approvals and conditions placed on the plant by the ZBA," Johnson said. "I don't think the DPU would have granted the exemption had the company not gone through the local permitting process."

Johnson said power plant opponents can only appeal if the DPU has made an error of law in writing the decision and that an expedited appeals process would not be likely to take the two years common in appeals cases.

from the State Senate

by State Senator Linda J. Melconian

Capital Punishment Is OK

My friends, the Massachusetts Senate recently debated the reinstitution of the death penalty, one of the most emotionally charged and impassioned issues in our state.

Because of the death of my father-in-law, Salvatore Scibelli, I was unable to attend the debate and the passage of the death penalty that followed. But I stand strong in support of the

death penalty to protect innocent children, police officers, and other citizens of the Commonwealth from brutal, heinous crimes that affect us all.

The sexual assault and murder in Cambridge of 10 year-old Jeffrey Curley brought back memories of our own little Jennifer Davila, who was sexually molested and smothered to death with a pillow by her foster father in May 1993. These children never had a chance to develop, never had a chance to experience life to the fullest.

They were robbed of life before they ever reached the age for college, for marriage, for starting a family. Their killers have no respect for life, no respect for innocent children who cannot survive without the love and support of adults.

What kind of society do we live in if we cannot protect the safety and well-being of our children? Men and women who rape, assault, and then murder children, have no place in our society.

The death penalty is not to be considered lightly. It is grim and serious, and its punishment is final. But when individuals brutally destroy our most precious legacy, children, we must act swiftly, sternly, and severely.

The Commonwealth has an obligation to do whatever is necessary to protect our little ones. The recent Curley murder, which involved a

premeditated set-up, challenges our sense of human decency.

I have always stood up for the protection of children all over the Commonwealth. I fought for passage of Lizzie's Law, which will prevent a parent who kills another parent from ever obtaining visitation rights to his or her children.

You all know the horrible story of Lizzie Thompson, and the torture she endures every day. The state has an obligation to protect her from her vicious, murdering father.

I understand the emotional nature of the death penalty issue. I respect the views of every one of my colleagues, some of whom morally oppose the death penalty. But several gruesome crimes over the years have brought me to the conclusion that there are certain actions for which there is no rehabilitation.

There are crimes which are so horrific and brutal, and so offensive to humanity, that we must respond in kind. We must stand up and protect innocent members of our community.

No one can bring back the children and others who have been murdered, but we can make sure that the repugnant human beings who perpetrate such crimes will never hurt anyone again.

The Senate has taken the first step. It is time for the House of Representatives to act.

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BERKSHIRE POWER. IT'S DOLLARS AND SENSE.



Charles Heyl, longtime Agawam resident,
former Agawam teacher, owner of CHH ENGRAVING in Agawam.

I've lived and worked in Agawam for a long time. My children were raised here - I love this city.

As a retired school teacher in Agawam, I know that our future is the education of our youth. I also know that it takes revenues to provide **quality education** and the **quality of life** we all want.

As a homeowner and a business owner, I pay my fair share of taxes. I believe that it makes a lot of **common sense** for us to say **yes** to a safe, clean power plant, a **new business** like Berkshire Power.

This is not a Nuclear Power Plant. It will be one of the **safest and cleanest** plants in the world **and it doesn't take a rocket scientist to do the math.**

Berkshire Power's total payments to the city will average **over 2.4 million dollars per year.**

Berkshire Power will pay **local** union workers more than **14 million dollars** in payroll for *just* the construction phase of the project *alone*.

Berkshire Power will pay about 1 million dollars a year to Agawam *just* for water and sewer service.

When it begins operating, Berkshire Power will **sell electricity for under 3.9 cents per kilowatt hour** - look at your current electric bill - that's *less than half* the cost of most existing, dirty and outdated power plants.

Berkshire Power will generate between **\$15 and \$20 million in the purchase of local goods and services** during the two-year construction period.

Local businesses will **absolutely benefit** from the project *every* year. **At least \$750,000 to \$1 million** will be spent *here* annually.

It makes sense to have 'industry subsidize our tax base, our water and our sewer rates. It makes sense to have more dollars for our schools, libraries, and recreational facilities; not to mention police and fire.

It also makes sense to have a healthy economy and it makes sense to have low cost, clean electrical power. Electricity isn't a luxury; it's a necessity. And it makes sense, next Tuesday, to say Yes to Berkshire Power.

PLEASE VOTE YES ON QUESTION ONE

Paid for by Berkshire Power

Agawam Police Arrest Blotter

On Monday, October 6th, **William Caruthers**, 43, of 92 Brandywine Lane, Suffield, CT, was arrested at 2:45 a.m. for operating under the influence of alcohol and for failure to keep right. Arresting officers were McDonnell and Kunasek.

On Tuesday, October 7th, **Cynthia L. Priest**, 43, of 1148 North Street Extension, Feeding Hills, was arrested at 7:30 p.m. for operating under the influence of alcohol. Arresting officers were Bopko and Edwards.

On Tuesday, October 7th, **John Tobia**, 28, of 779A South West Street, Feeding Hills, was arrested at 8:00 p.m. for an outstanding warrant for open and gross lewdness. Arresting officers were Detective Pfau and Gruska.

On Wednesday, October 8th, **James A. Cannon**, 37, of 71 High Street, Apartment 10, Agawam, was arrested at 1:40 p.m. on a default warrant. Arresting Officers were Poggi and Niles.

On Wednesday, October 8th, **Robert C. Freeman**, 49, of 67 Highland Street, Agawam, was arrested at 7:07 p.m. for domestic assault and battery. Arresting officers were Camerlin and Murphy.

On Thursday, October 9th, **Joseph A. Oczkowski**, 18, of 57 Barn Road, Agawam, was arrested at 11:00 p.m. for possession of alcohol by a minor. Arresting officers were Camerlin and Bertera.

On Friday, October 10th, **Christopher M. Albano**, 22, of 826 Chicopee Street, Chicopee, was arrested at 11:50 a.m. for breaking and entering in the daytime. Arresting officers were Poggi and Marmo.

On Friday, October 10th, **Tikiko A. Gomez**, 19, of 659 State Street, Apt. 2D, Springfield, was arrested at 10:36 p.m. for disorderly, two counts of assault and battery on a police officer, and for resisting arrest. Arresting officers were Cicchetti and Murphy.

On Saturday, October 11th, **Jason J. Paine**, 19, of 74 Kanawah Avenue, Agawam, was arrested at 12:01 a.m. for violation of a restraining order. Arresting officers were Camerlin and Riccio.

On Saturday, October 11th, **Thomas M. Roberts III**, 17, of 1049 River Road, Agawam, was arrested at 11:39 p.m. for transporting alcohol by a minor.

AGAWAM POLICE DEPARTMENT PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE OCTOBER 22, 1997

SORI NOTIFICATION

Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, c.6, 178K (2), the Agawam Police Department is disseminating the following information for your safety and the safety of all children and/or other individuals that you may have charge over.

Please be reminded that information contained in the Sex Offender Registry shall not be used to commit any crime against any Sex Offender or to engage in illegal discrimination or harassment of an offender. Any person who uses information disclosed pursuant to this act to commit a crime shall be punished by not more than two and one half years in a house of correction or by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars or by both such fine and imprisonment. In addition, any person who uses information disclosed pursuant to this act to threaten to commit a crime may be punished by a fine of not

Arresting officers were Pfau and Camerlin.

On Sunday, October 12th, **Daniel P. Akalis**, 19, of 48 Paul Revere Drive, Feeding Hills, was arrested at 7:37 p.m. for a warrant for being AWOL from the U.S. Armed Forces. Arresting officers were Riccio and Ceccarini.

On Monday, October 13th, **Randy C. Taylor**, 20, of 33 Norman Terrace, Feeding Hills, was arrested at 5:02 p.m. for assault with a dangerous weapon. Arresting officers were Bopko and Ceccarini.

On Monday, October 13th, **Roland E. Ratta II**, 19, of 33 Norman Terrace, Apt. 108, was arrested at 5:02 p.m. for assault with a dangerous weapon. Arresting officers were Bopko and Ceccarini.

On Tuesday, October 14th, **Viktor Lapin**, 22, of 102 New Bridge Street, West Springfield, was arrested at 4:49 p.m. for breaking and entering in the daytime. Arresting officers were Bertera and Ceccarini.

On Friday, October 17th, **Mitchell R. Deblok**, 31, of 130 Brandon Avenue, Springfield, was arrested at 5:23 p.m. for violation of a restraining order. Arresting officers were Bopko and Camerlin.

On Friday, October 17th, **Christopher Theriaque**, 21, of 4 Randall Street, Agawam, was arrested at 11:53 p.m. for an outstanding warrant. Arresting officers were Camerlin and Lottermoser.

On Sunday, October 19th, **Alan Edward Legare**, 39, of 24 Kingstone Avenue, East Longmeadow, was arrested for an outstanding warrant. Arresting officers were R. J. Brown and Marmo.

On Tuesday, October 21st, **Dan R. Guyette**, 26, of 16 Labelle Street, West Springfield, was arrested at 1:40 a.m. for domestic assault and battery. Arresting officers were Sgt. Light and Cicchetti.

On Tuesday, October 21st, **William G. Wessig**, 25, of 311 Meadow Street, Agawam, was arrested at 11:13 p.m. for an outstanding warrant. Arresting officers were Sgt. Draghetti and Poggi.

On Wednesday, October 22nd, **Sean P. Kennedy**, 18, of 66 Candlewood Drive, Agawam, was arrested at 5:19 p.m. for indecent assault and battery on a child under 14. Arresting officers were Pfau and Gruska.

more than one hundred dollars or by imprisonment for not more than six months pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, c. 275 s4.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

NAME: Fontaine, Paul Louis
SEX OFFENDER I.D. NUMBER: 532
LEVEL: 3
HOME ADDRESS: 200 Leonard Street, Agawam
WORK ADDRESS: 318 Griffith Road, Chicopee, MA
AGE: 41
SEX: Male
RACE: Caucasian
ETHNICITY: Unknown
HEIGHT: 5'10"
WEIGHT: 160
EYES: BROWN
HAIR: BROWN
OFFENSE(S) AND DATE(S):
07/26/93 - INDECENT A&B ON CHILD
02/02/93 - RAPE OF CHILD, NO FORCE
02/02/93 - INDECENT A&B ON CHILD

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT OUR deadline is every Tuesday at noon. We appreciate those who bring in their copy on Monday. We open weekdays at 6:30 a.m. If we can help, call us at 786-7747 or at 786-8137. Thanks.

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Agawam Obituaries

Lawrence E. Menard

Lawrence E. Menard, 76, of Morse Brook Road, Westminster, Vermont, a former Agawam Democratic Party leader, died at home.

He chaired the Agawam Democratic Town Committee, and orchestrated John F. Kennedy's first Senate win in Western Massachusetts.

He served on the Agawam School Board from 1955 to 1958, on school building committees, and on the state Housing Board.

He belonged to the Agawam Lions Club. He worked for Massachusetts Governors James Michael Curley, Foster Furcolo, and Maurice Tobin.

A decorator, he worked at Indian Motorcycle Co. in Springfield, MA, and was a decorator and salesman at the Piel's Brewery in Chicopee.

Born in Agawam, he lived there most of his life, and attended local schools.

He was a Navy gunner's mate in World War II, & was wounded during the 1943 Allied invasion of Sicily.

He was a former umpire-in-chief of the Agawam Little League, and belonged to the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Agawam Sportsmen's Club, and the Mawaga Sporting Club.

He moved to Vermont after retirement, and worked as a bartender at local clubs. He was a communicant of the Sacred Heart Church in Bellows Falls.

He leaves his wife, the former Corrinne Johnson; a son, Edward of Milford, New Hampshire; a daughter, Elaine Brooke of Longmeadow; two sisters, Lydia Pearsall of Falmouth and Leona Flannery of Agawam; two stepsons, Brian Johnson of Walpole, New Hampshire, and Laurence Johnson, serving in the Navy; a stepdaughter, Alesia Rainville of Swanton; and nine grandchildren.

A Mass was held in the church, with the burial in New Cemetery. Fenton & Hennessey Funeral Home of Bellows Falls was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to any charity.

Ruby E. Burgess

Ruby E. (Crosby) Burgess, 90, of 33 Anthony Street, Agawam, died in a local nursing home. She was a 15-year employee of A.G. Spalding Co.

Born in Wakefield, she lived in Chicopee before moving to Agawam 50 years ago.

She attended the Baptist Church, and was a founder of its Trading Post.

She was a life member of the Springfield Indians and Falcons Booster Clubs.

Her husband, Andrew Burgess, died in 1983.

She leaves a daughter, Linda M. Pajak of Feeding Hills; two brothers, Roy E. and Bernard M. of West Springfield; two sisters, Ivoline C. Bennett of Springfield and Muriel J. Strauss of Chicopee; two grandsons; and nephews and nieces.

The funeral was held at the Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home, with the burial at Hillcrest Park Cemetery in Springfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to any charity.

SEE OBITUARIES - Page 51...

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OBITUARIES - from Page 50...

Evelyn J. Raschi

Evelyn J. (Camossi) Raschi, 79, of 49 Fairview Street, Agawam, a cafeteria manager in the Agawam School System for 25 years, died at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

Born in West Springfield, she lived there for many years, and was a graduate of West Springfield High School.

She moved to Agawam in 1950, and was a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church.

She was a Daughter of Columbus.

She was the widow of Anthony A. Raschi.

She leaves two daughters, Beverly Bishop of Westhampton and Maria LaRochelle of Agawam; a brother, Bartholemew Jr. of West Springfield; two sisters, Edna Klica and Doris Williams of Springfield; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held in the church, with the burial in Center Cemetery. Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, P.O. Box 50, Memphis, Tennessee 38101, or the church at 823 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001.

William B. Burnett

William B. ("Billy") Burnett, 71, of 415 Springfield Street, Agawam, a former Springfield area and Olympics hockey athlete, coach, and trainer, died at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

He was selected in 1960 to train the Canadian hockey team that competed in the Olympic Games in Innsbruck, Austria. He also had been recruited as a trainer by Eddie Shore, owner of the old Springfield Indians hockey club, and Jack Kent Cooke, owner of the old Springfield Kings.

In 1954 and 1960, he was a trainer for the St. Catharines Tee Pee Junior Hockey League when it won the Memorial Cup in Ontario. He trained leagues in Canada and Michigan, and was a linesman for the Ontario Hockey Association.

Born in Founthill, Ontario, he was a Canadian Army veteran of World War II. He served with the famed Black Watch Highland Division in the European theater.

He belonged to the Royal Canadian Legion for 25 years.

He played high school and junior league football, lacrosse, and hockey, and participated in the Canadian Football League for the Hamilton Tiger Cats.

He was a hockey goaltender and soccer player with professional leagues in Canada.

He moved to Agawam later.

He leaves his wife, the former Ann Burian; two sons, Richard and John of Canada; three daughters, Linda Ann Burnett of Bradenton, Florida, and Susan Burnett and Cheryl Burnett of Canada; a brother, Walter of Canada; five sisters, Eliza Bayne, Dinah Lane, Jessie Stewart, Jean Freshew, and Jane Filipetto of Canada; and several grandchildren.

Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements, and the burial will be in Canada.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Shriners Hospital for Children, 516 Carew Street, Springfield, MA 01104.

Lillian M. Karam

Lillian M. (Stankitas) Karam, 66, of 100 School Street, Agawam, died at home.

She was a security guard at the Hampden County Hall of Justice in Springfield for 15 years, and retired in 1992.

She was born in Easthampton, and was graduated from Easthampton High School.

She lived in Springfield before moving to Agawam in 1967.

She leaves two sons, Anthony J. of Santa Clara, California, and Scott F. of Framingham; a daughter, Cynthia M. Clarke of Everett; a brother, James Sodaitis of Easthampton; and four grandchildren.

The funeral was held at St. Pierre Springfield Funeral Chapels and St. Anthony's Maronite Church in Springfield. The burial was at the convenience of the family.

Carol R. Hallock

Carol Rose (Fountain) Hallock, 56, of Agawam, died at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

She was the former owner and operator of Flowers by Carol at the Eastern States Exposition.

Born in West Springfield, she lived in Agawam most of her life.

She leaves her husband, Peter H. Hallock; a son, Peter A. of Agawam; two daughters, Susan Tapply and Catherine ("Katie") Kopyscinski of Agawam; four sisters, Madeline ("Lee") LaFromboise of Monson, Shirley ("Corky") Hebert of Chicopee, Gail Orlandi of West Springfield, and Marlene Lovely of Agawam; two brothers, Harold ("Sluggo") of Agawam and Douglas ("Art") of West Springfield; and seven grandchildren.

A memorial service was held at the Agawam Congregational Church, with the burial in Center Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Baystate Health Systems, Development Office, 759 Chestnut Street, WMU5, Springfield, MA 01199, or the Agawam Congregational Church capital fund drive at 745 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001.

Hugo Benzing

Hugo Benzing, 92, of 45 Weymouth Street, Springfield, died at Baystate Medical Center.

He was a longtime foreman at the former Package Machinery Co. of East Longmeadow.

Born in West Germany, he was a longtime Springfield resident, and a life member of the Springfield Turnverein in Feeding Hills.

He leaves his wife of 60 years, Mabel (Moxon) Benzing, and nephews and nieces.

The service was private, and Byron's City Burial & Cremation Service was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Springfield Turnverein, Inc., 176 Garden Street, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

Abel A. DaSilva

Abel A. DaSilva, 87, formerly of Davenport Street, Chicopee, died in an Agawam nursing home.

He was a grinder for Atlas Foundry, Inc. for 10 years, and retired in 1982.

Born in Estarreja, Portugal, he lived in New York City before moving to Chicopee 48 years ago.

He was a communicant of the Holy Name Church, and an Army veteran of World War II.

He served with the 414th Infantry Regiment of the 104th Infantry Division in the Northern France, Rhineland, and Central Europe campaigns in 1944-45, and received the Purple Heart, a Victory Medal, and American and European theater ribbons.

His wife, the former Mary G. Luiz, died in 1995.

He leaves a daughter, Julianne M. Smist of Feeding Hills; a brother, Victor Alves of Portugal; two sisters, Norbinda of Sao Paulo, Brazil, and Flesbela of Palm Coast, Florida; and a granddaughter.

The funeral was held at Cierpial Grape Street Funeral Home and the church, with the burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Disease Association, 11 Campus Lane, Easthampton, MA 01027.

Western Massachusetts Genealogical Society To Meet November 5th

The Western Massachusetts Genealogical Society will meet at the Connecticut Valley Historical Museum in Springfield at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 5th.

John O'Connor, museum staff genealogist, will present a program demonstrating access to computer information available for genealogical research.

The genealogical library will be open at 5:00 p.m. to members of the Genealogical Society for personal research.

School Improvement Council At AHS Has Two Vacancies

The AHS SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL has two vacancies for parent members for the 1997-1998 school year.

Interested AHS parents are asked to please contact the Agawam High School main office at 821-0530.

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Families

Golden Age Club's Chapter I Celebrates 41st Anniversary

The Agawam Golden Age Club, Chapter I, had a beautiful Indian summer day to help them celebrate their 41st anniversary dinner meeting on Wednesday, October 8th, at the Oak Ridge Golf Club in Feeding Hills.

A table of cheese and crackers helped the members to enjoy socializing during the social hour. Dinner was served as 12:30 p.m.

President Mary DelNegro led the members in a pledge to the flag. Chaplain Evelyn O'Melia read a poem, and a brief prayer was said.

After a hearty meal, the president presented Frank Gatti with a dinner certificate and a special badge in appreciation of his hard work and devotion in making sure that the members had a variety of refreshments, coffee, and tea at every meeting for 13 years, serving as Refreshment Chairman.

Attending the dinner and recognized were two past presidents, Edward Organek and Evelyn O'Melia. Also attending and recognized were two life members, Theresa DiCarlo and Evelyn A. Cassavant. "Happy Birthday" was sung to Evelyn, who is celebrating her 99th birthday.

President DelNegro then thanked everyone who has contributed and volunteered through the years to make this special day possible. She also thanked all the members who have worked on the event day.

They were: Eva DeGrandpre, in charge of sitting arrangements; Rose Paro and Loretta Wright were in charge of ticket sales; Cecilia Rebecchi, in charge of entertainment; and the president's officers and the Board of Directors, who helped with the decision-making.

President DelNegro would have liked to thank all the other members by name who have helped or volunteered on various committees, but it would have taken too much time because her list was long.

The afternoon's entertainment was a climax to a beautiful day. Cecilia Rebecchi introduced The Blue Ribbon Singers of Westfield, who were great. Their songs brought back memories as well as some of the "ditty" songs of the 1940's and 1950's.

This group is so great that they are in demand. They are appearing in the West Springfield Senior Variety Show in West Springfield.



SOME OF THOSE WHO ATTENDED the recent Anniversary Banquet of the Agawam Golden Age Club, Chapter 1, from left - Catherine Commisso, Joe Gentile, Anna Cecchi, Emily Gentile, Edith Michaud, and Joseph Michaud. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



MORE OF THE HAPPY FACES of Agawam Golden Age Club Chapter I, at the Anniversary Banquet, from left - Vern Stowe, Cecilia Menard, Helen Skiba, Margaret White, Lewis Rebecchi, Cecilia Rebecchi, Frances Fern, and Ingrim Prozano. RELATED PHOTO ON NEXT PAGE. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

JACK DEVINE needs at least 48 hours notice to cover your event. Call Jack at 789-0053. Thanks.

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Frank Gatti Honored



FOR THE PAST 13 years Frank Gatti has served as the refreshment chairman for the Agawam Golden Age Club Chapter I Anniversary Banquet held recently at Oak Ridge Golf Club. President Mary DelNegro is pictured with Frank. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

"Almost" Free Advice Workshop At Capt. Leonard House

On Saturday, November 15th, Agawam trainers and counselors, Sasha ZeBryk and Mary Ann Dietschler, will present the first of a four-part workshop series entitled "Almost" Free Advice Your Mother Tried To Teach You.

Part I of the series includes understanding powerful body language, tips for interviewing for a future mate, ingredients for making genuine friendships and an update on etiquette in the '90's, and much more. Pastries, coffee, and tea will be served at this fun and interactive workshop.

The series will be held at the **Captain Leonard House** on Main Street in Agawam. Part I on November 15th is from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Each workshop is \$29, and the entire series of four workshops is \$89. Bring a friend and send your check to **The Living Legacy Foundation**, c/o Mary Ann Dietschler, 281 Elm Street, Agawam, MA 01001.

Sasha ZeBryk is president of **MDZ Seminars/The WHOLE Woman Conference**, and Mary Ann Dietschler is president of **IN YOUR SPACE**, an organizational consulting service. Both women have taught and trained in the personal development arena for a combined total of 27 years.

Sessions II, III, and IV will be held in February, April, and June of 1998. Call Mary Ann Dietschler at 789-7722, or Sasha ZeBryk at 821-0086 for a complete brochure.

Holiday Craft Fair Slated By Polish American Women

The Polish American Women's Auxiliary will continue a tradition with its annual holiday craft fair, to be held on Saturday, November 8th, at the Polish Club Pavilion, 139 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills.

Handcrafted items by local artists, a Polish American kitchen, and homebaked foods will be available from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Christmas is just around the corner. Hope to see you there!

HallowScream Party At Riverside Park To Feature Costumes

Riverside Park will host New England's Largest Costume Contest this Halloween, Friday, October 31st, starting at 4:30 p.m. in the Riverside Park Speedway Stadium. The top honor of "Best Costume" will walk away with \$10,000 in cash.

The Pepsi/Riverside HallowScream Costume Contest will begin with musical performances by three modern rock artists.

"We feel we offer the most thrilling Halloween event in New England. It just makes sense that Riverside be the host of the best costume contest that New England has ever seen," stated Ron Severt, Director of Marketing at Riverside.

He added, "The \$10,000 grand prize, combined with the family HallowScream attractions and concert planned for the evening, will make HallowScream '97 the place to be for Halloween. I can't wait to see the costumes people will create for the \$10,000 grand prize."

Over 100 total prizes, including trips to anywhere in the continental United States, will be awarded in Riverside Park's first annual Pepsi Costume Contest. A prize will also be awarded to the best under-12 costume. Costumes will be judged on creativity, originality, humor, and quality.

Official rules are available at Riverside during regular operating hours. Tickets can be purchased in advance through TicketMaster locations or charged by phone at (413) 733-2500, or by stopping by the Riverside Park Box Office during regularly scheduled operating hours.

Over a dozen HallowScream attractions have been added to the rides, shows, and attractions of Riverside Park for the Halloween season.

Hours of operation through Sunday, November 2nd, are Friday, October 31st (Halloween night), 3:00 to 11:00 p.m.; Saturday, November 1st, 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.; and Sunday, November 2nd, 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

For more information on HallowScream, call 1-888-HAUNTLINE.

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Dr. Bernard Siegel To Conclude 1997 Spfld. Public Forum Series

Dr. Bernard S. Siegel, distinguished surgeon, writer, and self-help therapist, will appear as the final lecturer in the current Springfield Public Forum Series on Tuesday, November 4th, at Symphony Hall in downtown Springfield.

The event, scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m., is open to all free of charge. Baystate Medical Center is the co-sponsor, and its chief executive officer, Mark R. Tolosky, will preside as chairman. Siegel will address the subject "Prescriptions for Living."

Siegel, who prefers to be called "Bernie," not "Doctor," graduated with Honors from Colgate University and Cornell University Medical College. He was admitted to two honor societies, Phi Beta Kappa as a Colgate undergraduate and Alpha Omega Alpha at medical school. His surgical training took place at Yale New Haven Hospital and the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh.

Disillusioned with his approach to surgery, where he looked upon his patients as machines he had to repair, he desired a closer approach to the sick. In 1978, he started Exceptional Cancer Patients, a non-profit support group for people with cancer and other life-threatening diseases.

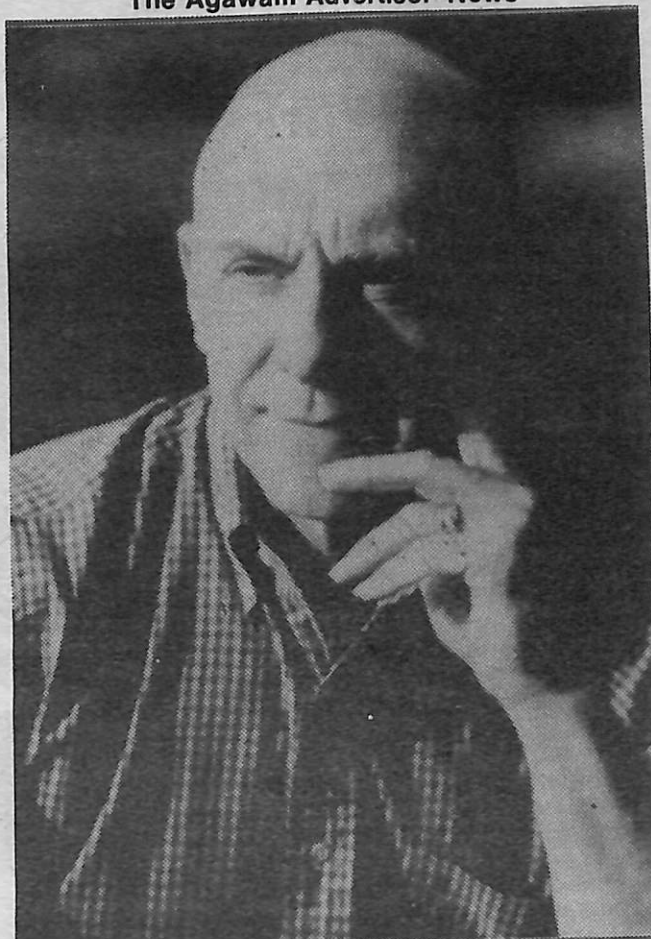
Through love and new self-awareness, patients seek to heal and enrich their remaining days where there is no cure. The goal is patient empowerment and the choice is to live fully and die in peace.

Siegel maintains that disease is often the result of long-festered tension, unhappiness, and repressed needs and that recovery can be aided by addressing the psychological problems behind the illness.

He claims the huge success of his first book, *Love, Medicine and Miracles*, published in 1986 (1,830,000 copies and a year on the best-seller list), redirected his life. He retired from surgery in 1989 to devote himself full time to writing, lecturing, and facilitating workshops.

He subsequently authored *Peace, Love and Healing* and *How to Live Between Office Visits: A Guide to Live, Love and Health*.

Siegel is now involved in humanizing medical



DR. BERNARD SIEGEL

education and making the profession aware of the mind/body connection.

He is quoted as saying, "If I were in charge of medical education, I'd put doctors in bed for a couple of weeks so they could feel what it's like to be a patient, and I'd have them attend a healing service so they could witness the power of hope and faith. And I'd have every aspiring doctor meet an actual patient on the first day of medical school."

Siegel and his wife, Bobbie, have co-authored many articles and have innumerable interests and pets. They live in the New Haven area and have five children and four grandchildren.

He claims their home resembles a cross between a family art gallery, a zoo, a museum, and an automobile repair shop.

More Nostalgia About Swing Era's Coming Town Musical

Two Weeks Until World War II
Intergenerational Week
(AHS Classroom Visits, November 17th-21st)
Songs of the War Years - Chorus Concert,
Wednesday, November 19th
Victory Dance - Friday, November 21st

1942

World War II continued, with the United States now in it. The Japanese affected a landing in Manila, on the Philippine Islands, forced the surrender of the American-Filipino forces at Bataan, and after overcoming stout resistance, captured Corregidor Fortress in Manila Bay.

American troops arrived in northern Ireland. The United States began the removal of Japanese-American residents of the coastal states to inland areas.

Lt. Colonel James Doolittle and 79 airmen with a large squadron of Army B-25 bombers raided the Japanese coastal cities of Tokyo, Yokohama, Kobe, Hagoya, and Osaka. They started from an undesignated place called "Shangri-La," a name derived from James Hilton's novel, *Lost Horizon*.

Japan occupied several of the Aleutian Islands. American forces began the attack of Guadalcanal in the Solomon Islands and finally defeated the Japanese in a great naval battle. The U.S. Air Forces commenced at Naples the bombardment of Italian cities.

Rationing of food, clothing, and other articles went into effect under the OPA. Gasoline was placed on ration, also.

Air raid sirens were installed and periodic blackout drills were introduced.

President Roosevelt called for (and got) 60,000 planes, 45,000 tanks, 20,000 anti-aircraft guns, and 8,000,000 tons of merchant shipping.

Americans old enough to remember World War I were skeptical about the possibilities of American workers filling this order because they recalled that during the first war, the United States had produced only 80 tanks and had failed completely to produce the airplanes, artillery, and ships needed by the armed forces.

Congress empowered the President to stabilize prices and wages, and voted the conscription of boys of 18 years of age and over for military service.

Representatives of 26 nations at war with the Axis powers formed the nucleus of the United Nations, which was accomplished in 1945.

According to *Billboard Magazine* surveys, the favorite bands for the year were Glenn Miller, Tommy Dorsey, Harry James, Benny Goodman, Jimmy Dorsey, Vaughn Monroe, Sammy Kaye, Kay Kyser, Charlie Spivak, and Woody Herman.

Some of the number-one hit songs during the year were "A String Of Pearls," "White Christmas," "Moonlight Cocktail," "I've Got A Gal In Kalamazoo," "Jingle Jangle Jingle," "Tangerine," "The White Cliffs Of Dover," "Jersey Bounce," "Don't Sit Under The Apple Tree," "Sleepy Lagoon," "He Wears A Pair Of Silver Wings," "Blues In The Night," and "I Don't Want To Walk Without You."

Agawam Senior Center November Highlights

Saturday, November 1st: 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., TRIAD Pancake Breakfast (free to seniors).

Monday, November 3rd: 10:00 a.m., Craft classes.

Wednesday, November 5th: 12:30 p.m., "Friends" cruise info video.

Thursday, November 6th: 10:00 a.m., N.E. Utilities info.

Friday, November 7th: 9:30 a.m., Tap and jazz lessons; 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Men's Outing (lunch and Springfield Armory with Quail Run).

Monday, November 10th: 10:00 a.m., Veterans' video/men's sport video; 12:00 noon, Veterans' tribute (accordion music by Tom Bilodeau).

Thursday, November 13th: 8:00 p.m., Bay Path College musical, "42nd Street" (\$5).

Friday, November 14th: 9:30 a.m., Tap and jazz

lessons; 1:00 p.m., "Friends" annual meeting.

Monday, November 17th: 10:00 a.m., Craft classes.

Wednesday, November 19th: 10:00 a.m., Thanksgiving Flower Demo with Elaine Smith.

Thursday, November 20th: 10:00 a.m., Jewelry Making with Lynn Bright; 10:00 a.m., ASGA meeting.

Friday, November 21st: 10:00 a.m., Bake sale; 12:00 noon, Thanksgiving meal (with piano music by Peg Thompson).

Monday, November 24th: 10:00 a.m., Veterans' video/men's sports video; 1:00 p.m., AARP meeting.

Wednesday, November 26th: 10:00 a.m., Bake sale.

Friday, November 28th: 9:30 a.m., Tap and jazz dance lessons.

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AHS Class Of 1972 Schedules Its 25th Reunion

Agawam High School's class of 1972 will hold its 25th reunion on November 28, 1997 at Alexander's in Feeding Hills.

If you know the addresses of any of the following missing classmates, please contact Diana Hopkins, 108 Monroe Street, Agawam, MA 01001:

Leonard Ares, Mark Beaulieu, Theresa Beaulieu, Bruce Conant, Gary Costa, William Daudelin, Sharon Davio, Debbie Rex, Mitzi Fay, Catherine Gale, Gary Gibbs, Cynthia Grimaldi, Tim Harrison, Melisa Holman, Debbie Knowles, Don Lamoureux, Paul Rose, Donna Mazza Moore, Thomas Acquaro, Judy Arnold Turcotte, Gary Smith, Nancy Meucci Cox, Lance Lamagdeleine, Brad Hedges, Ralph Morin, Diana Ploof, Brian Nichols.

Steve Latour, Debbie Lynch, Maureen Moynihan, Richard Palin, Sue Peloquin, Robt. Poisson, Joanne Raynor, Ken Robbins, Dennis Rock, Dan Rose, Robt. Lombardi, Debbie White, James Yarmac, Linda Nelson, Deborah Neis Ponuski, Deborah Hale LaBelle, Paul Scales, George Hill, Diane Simmons Brenna, Luann Della Pegorara Stratton, Jeanne Quill Feeney, David Boldebook, and Maryann Herzog.

AHS Class Of 1987 Prepares Reunion

The Agawam High School Class of 1987 is now taking reservations for its 10-year reunion to be held Friday, November 28th at 6:00 p.m. at Shaker Farms Country Club.

If you or someone you know has not yet responded, it's not too late. The deadline is November 20th. You may pay at the door, but meals have to be ordered ahead.

Choice of dinner includes manicotti primavera, chicken Francaise, and baked scrod. Cost is \$30 per person.

To purchase a ticket, send check (payable to Class of 1987) to Stacy Piccoli, 40 Horsham Place, Feeding Hills, MA 01030. Please indicate your choice of meal.

Army Pvt. Brian M. Hebert Enters Basic Infantry Training

Army Pvt. Brian M. Hebert has entered basic infantry training at Fort Benning, Columbus, Georgia.

During the training, he will receive instruction in drill and ceremonies, map reading, tactics, military customs and courtesies, and first aid. He will develop basic combat skills, and experience using various weapons available to the infantry soldier.

Hebert is the son of Carol Veto of 80 County Road, Holyoke, and Harvey Hebert of 56 Horsham Place, Agawam.

He is a 1997 graduate of Agawam High School.

Rollaway Sponsoring Open Pantry Skate

The Rollaway in Agawam will be sponsoring a Skate for the West Springfield/Agawam Open Pantry on Wednesday, November 5th.

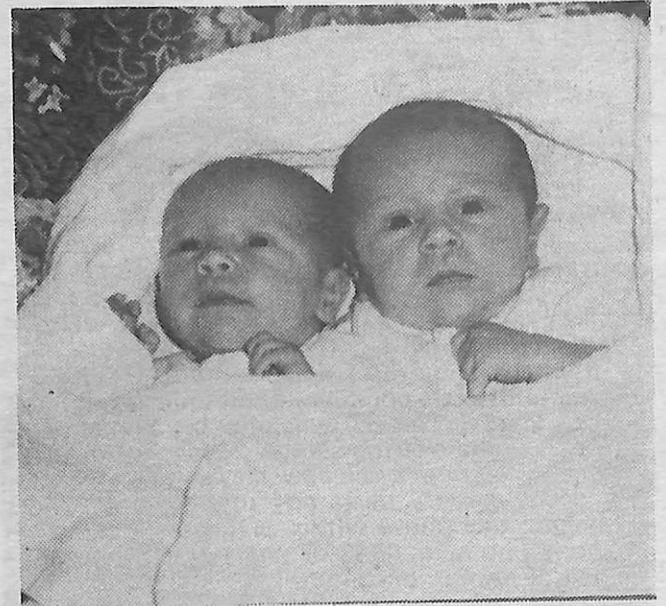
Bring in a can of food and you can skate for only \$1. (Skate rentals are included.)

From 12:30-2:00 p.m., pre-schoolers and parents are invited. There is an After-School Skate from 4:00-5:30 p.m. for all ages, and Family Night is scheduled from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Items especially needed are soups, tuna fish, canned meats and meals, canned fruits and vegetables, juices, pasta, macaroni & cheese, rice, and cereal.

All donations are given to West Springfield/Agawam Open Pantry. For more information, call The Rollaway at 786-4875.

*Best
Local
News*



THE GRIFFIN TWINS, LEXI & CAM

Griffin Family Announces Birth Of Twin Sons, Lexi & Cam

Leah and Brian Griffin of Feeding Hills proudly announce the birth of their twin sons, Lexi and Cam, on September 10, 1997.

Maternal grandparents are John and Cyndi Negrucci of Feeding Hills. Fraternal grandparents are Larry and Regina Griffin of Springfield.

Great-grandparent is Mrs. Mary Negrucci of West Springfield.

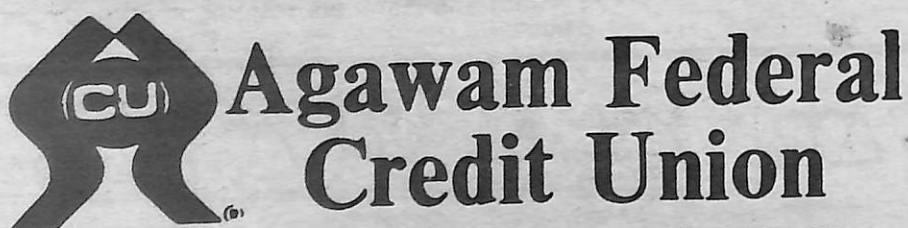
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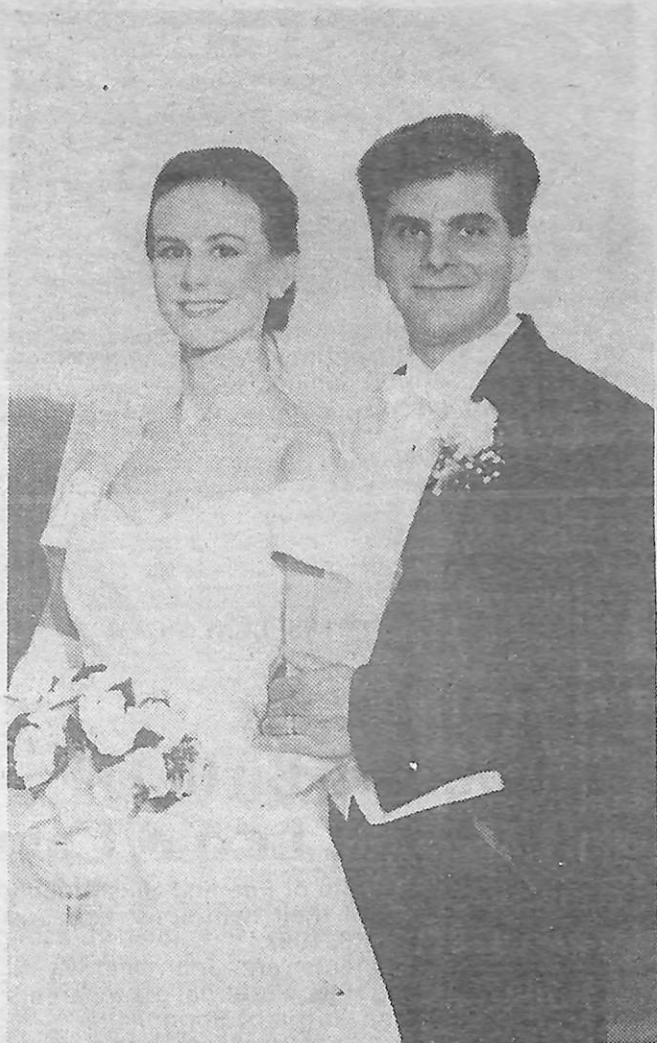
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MR. & MRS. RAYMOND C. CASELLA

Kelly Louise Budzyna Becomes Bride Of Raymond C. Casella

Mr. and Mrs. W. James Budzyna of Whitinsville, MA, announce the marriage of their daughter, Miss Kelly Louise Budzyna, to Mr. Raymond C. Casella, son of Mrs. Joan Casella and the late Dr. Raymond L. Casella of Agawam.

The ceremony was celebrated at Our Lady of the Rosary Church in Springfield, with the reception following at the Springfield Country Club.

Miss Michelle L. Silva attended the bride as maid of honor. Mr. Alfred R. Casella attended his brother as best man. Mr. Jonathan J. Budzyna, brother of the bride, and Mr. Raymond J. Casella, cousin of the groom, served as ushers.

The bride was graduated from Notre Dame Academy, Worcester, MA, and Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, where she studied Chemistry and Fine Art, with a concentration in painting. At present, she is employed as an interior design consultant for American Home Gallery in Glastonbury, CT.

The groom was graduated from Suffield Academy, Suffield, CT, and Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, Rhode Island, and Rome, Italy, where he received degrees in Architecture and Fine Arts. He is currently attending Western New England College School of Law, and is employed as an architect for the legal and architectural firm of Alfred P. Casella, Architect, Agawam and Suffield.

The couple currently resides in Suffield.

best local news...



CAPTAIN & MRS. JOHN R. MOSHER

Carol E. Pignatare Becomes Bride Of Capt. John R. Mosher

Carol E. Pignatare, daughter of Frank and Carol A. Pignatare of 685 Suffield St., Agawam, exchanged marriage vows on August 9, 1997, with Capt. John R. Mosher at Merlin's Cove in Burnham, Maine.

The bridegroom is the son of David and Marion Mosher of Burnham.

Jennifer Pirnie attended the bride as maid-of-honor. The bridesmaids were Judith Schachte and Rose Pignatare, sisters of the bride; Marybeth Dearborn and Sara Walsh, sisters of the groom, and Kimberly Hollinger. Lisa and Beth Pignatare were the flowergirls.

Capt. Jeffery Squires was the best man. The groomsmen were Capt. Verne McMoran, 1Lt. Shawn Gurney, Capt. Ray Dunning, Capt. Michael MacLaughlin, and Capt. Tom Mundell.

The bride is a 1988 graduate from Agawam High School, Holyoke Community College, and Unity College, Unity, Maine, where she received a Bachelor's Degree in Wildlife Biology. She is a teacher's aid for the Head Start program in Presque Isle, Maine.

Her husband graduated from Maine Central Institute in Pittsfield, Maine, the University of Maine at Orono and the U.S. Army Airborne Ranger Air Assault Infantry School in Fort Benning, Georgia.

He is a captain in the U.S. Army serving as a training and operations officer of the First Battalion 152nd Field Artillery in Caribou, Maine.

Carol and John ("Jack") are residing in Caribou, Maine.

*Check our classified
pages every week*



MR. & MRS. J. HENRY SCHACHTE III

Judith Pignatare Exchanges Vows With J. Henry Schachte III

Sacred Heart Church in Feeding Hills was the setting for the April 12, 1997 wedding of Judith Pignatare and J. Henry Schachte III. The Rev. Kenneth Tatro officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Frank and Carol Pignatare of Suffield St., Agawam. Parents of the groom are John and Jacquelyn Schachte, Jr. of Rome, New York.

Rose Pignatare attended her sister as maid-of-honor. The bridesmaids were Carol E. Pignatare, sister of the bride, Jacqueline Korbel and Carla Pignatare, cousins of the bride, and Angela Schachte, sister of the groom.

Marc Bourgeau served as best man to the groom. The groomsmen were Michael and Mark Schachte, brothers of the groom; Barry Kolano, and Peter Lamachia.

The bride is a 1987 graduate of Agawam High School and Springfield College where she received a Bachelor's Degree in Sports Biology. She is presently in the Physician's Assistant Master's Program at Quinnipiac College, Hamden, Connecticut.

Her husband graduated from Rome Catholic High School, Rome, New York, and St. Bonaventure University in Olean, New York, where he received a Bachelor's Degree in Biology. He also attended Springfield College. He is a sales representative for Hammer Strength Equipment in Enfield, Connecticut.

Judi and Hank are residing in Enfield, Connecticut.

Open Sunday November 2nd, 1-3 P.M.

35 George Loomis Road, Southwick
(Off Rt. 10/202 To City View To Sacket To George Loomis)

You can enjoy 7-plus acres of country living in this 6 room, 3 bedroom colonial farmhouse built in the 1830's. A stream, barn, land suitable for farming, and a beautiful mountain view are all part of this property.

This home features many updates including vinyl siding, a high efficiency furnace, circuit breakers, a newer roof, and more.

Stop by to see this unique property located in a rural area yet close to shops and schools as well as a short drive to the Connecticut line.

\$169,900

For more details, please call Jan Szemela, 786-7744 or 789-4915



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Area And Connecticut*

Jr. Women's Club Seeking Donations For Annual Holiday Basket Program

If you wish to make a perishable donation of a 10-pound turkey or a three-pound ham, please call Joyce at 786-3327 or Dee at 786-9085 after 5:00 p.m.

For the Christmas baskets, we often include toys for the children. If you wish to donate a toy, you may leave it in the same drop-off box at one of the places listed above for food.

Also, every year our Club looks for caring individuals to sponsor a child (or children) of one of these needy families. Sponsors are asked to purchase one item of clothing for that child (or children) which is wrapped and added to the family's holiday basket. To sponsor a child, call Eileen at 789-2818 or Stephanie at 786-4578.

The Agawam Junior Women's Club is an equal opportunity volunteer organization and a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs and the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts.

Once again, the Agawam Junior Women's Club is collecting food and toys for Thanksgiving and Christmas Holiday Baskets. This year, we need to fill over 50 baskets which will be delivered to Feeding Hills and Agawam residents in need, including some of our elderly.

We are looking to fill each basket with one Thanksgiving dinner and enough food to feed a family of four for a week. We need the following items:

Canned vegetables; cereal; onions; pumpkin pie filling; food in jars; cake mixes; apples; stuffing mix; pasta; potatoes; and cranberry sauce.

These items may be left at the following drop-off places:

Fitness First; Ayre Real Estate; Feeding Hills Public Market; Agawam Senior Center; Granger School Office; Westfield Savings Bank; Agawam Public Market; The Deli on Main Street; Agawam Town Hall; and the Agawam Public Library.

November's Events Calendar For Both Golden Age Clubs

* **November 7th:** Board of Directors' meeting at 1:00 p.m. at the Senior Center.

* **November 10th:** Trip to Mohegan Casino.

* **November 12th:** Regular meeting with bingo and Thanksgiving raffle.

* **November 18th:** Trip to "The Class of Christmas" at the new Log Cabin in Holyoke.

* **November 26th:** Regular meeting with bingo.

"Have a happy Thanksgiving!"

check our classified

Free Pancake Breakfast For Seniors Sponsored By Hampden TRIAD

The Hampden County TRIAD is sponsoring a free pancake breakfast for seniors (over 50) on Saturday, November 1st, at the Agawam Senior Center from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The cost is \$3 for non-seniors, and \$10 per family.

The breakfast is to call attention to the existence of the TRIAD, which is a collaborative between law enforcement and elder citizens.

Both the Hampden County District Attorney and Sheriff, as well as community police chiefs, have joined with senior groups such as Councils on Aging, AARP Chapters, and protective services to work together to prevent crime and safeguard our community for seniors.

The TRIAD fosters cooperation between these groups to reduce the criminal victimization of the elderly, and to dispel the perceptions seniors may have about the role of law enforcement and crime.

Come to the Senior Center with your friends and enjoy a delicious breakfast.

Agawam Garden Club To Hold Annual Banquet On Nov. 11th

Reservations for the annual banquet of the Agawam Garden Club must be made by November 3rd, according to Barbara Pemberton, president.

The roast pork dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. on November 11th at the First Congregational Church, Main Street. Guests are welcome to attend, but all \$10 reservations must be made by November 3rd with Club Treasurer Terry Angotti, 28 Country Road, Agawam (786-6482).

Nancy Wojcizski, who has a radio show entitled "Nancy's Garden" on radio station WNNZ-AM, will be the speaker for the event. Her program is aired from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on Saturdays. She will discuss, "Putting the garden to bed for the winter and what gardeners do during the winter season."

A native of the midwest, Nancy lives in Amherst, MA.

Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, November 3rd: Shepherd's pie, glazed carrots, rye bread, fresh grapes.

Tuesday, November 4th: Hamburg special on a roll, potato salad, birthday cake.

Wednesday, November 5th: Chicken pot pie, tossed salad, whole wheat bread, pudding.

Thursday, November 6th: Ziti and meatballs, steamed broccoli, Italian bread, apricots.

Friday, November 7th: Baked fish, rice Florentine, mixed vegetables, pumpernickel bread, pears.

Best local news...

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Even the darkest sunglasses can't block out harmful and dangerous glare. Now you can get all the advantages of Varilux Comfort in a polarized sunlens. For any outdoor activity—driving, gardening, golfing—Varilux Comfort Polarized sunlenses provide the most advanced protection under the sun. Varilux Comfort lenses have the exclusive IN•FOS™ vision system that provides instant focus

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a department of the Westfield Woman's Club

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Friday November 7 & 14,
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Curtain Time 8:00 P.M.
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Saturday November 15
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All performances held at
The Westfield Woman's Club
28 Court Street, Westfield

For Reservations Call 572-6838
Tickets \$8, \$6 for students & seniors
(General Admission Seating)

This show is supported in part by the Westfield Arts council, a local agency, the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Church News

Communion Sunday At First Baptist On November 2nd

The ordinance of holy communion will be celebrated this Sunday, November 2nd, at First Baptist Church. The service begins at 9:30 a.m. Pastor Richard Barnes will speak on "A Daily Reminder," with scriptural references from Deuteronomy. Worship assistants will be Harry Durant, who will lead the responsive reading, and greeters Diana LaZazzera, Alice McMullin, and Nancy and Stanley Edwards. Following morning worship, there will be a coffee and conversation time in Davis Hall.

Classes are held until 11:45 a.m. for all ages. Nursery care is available throughout the morning. The Religious Education Committee will hold its monthly meeting at 6:30 p.m. All board members are asked to attend.

On our calendar this week:
Monday, November 3rd: 7:00 p.m., Men's Group; 7:00 p.m., Baptist Women's Day of Prayer - Chapel; 7:00 p.m., Sunshine Circle; 7:30 p.m., Amicitia Circle; 7:30 p.m., Sister-to-Sister.
Tuesday, November 4th: 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 7:00 p.m., Junior Youth Group; 7:00 p.m., Missions Committee.
Wednesday, November 5th: 7:15 a.m., Mid-Week Prayer Time; 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Trading Post Open; 7:30 p.m., Calendar Planning - Lockhart Parlor.
Thursday, November 6th: 10:00 a.m., Bell Ringers Rehearsal; 12:00 noon, Over 60's Thanksgiving Dinner; 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal.

The Explorers troupe, who rent our church hall for their meetings, will hold a t-shirt and sweat-shirt sale in Davis Hall on November 5th from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Come and do your Christmas shopping.

Items for the Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets for the needy of Agawam will be received throughout the month of November. Bring your contributions and share with those in need. You'll feel good and help others as well.

Coming up: The Jingle Valley Fair. This annual event will be held this year on November 22nd from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. It will feature hand-crafted items, home-baked goodies, plants and dried flowers, Christmas decorations, candy, and white elephants. Mark your calendar for this special event!

Check our classified pages every week

You enjoyed dinner with us at the Big E.
 Now come and worship with us.
 We offer food for the soul.



The
Feeding Hills Congregational Church
 21 North Westfield Street Feeding Hills MA
 Phone 786-5061
 Worship Service 10:00 A.M.

Reflections...

submitted by
Rev. Peter Monahan
 Pastor of the Church
 of the Apostles,
 Suffield, CT
 (860) 668-4444 or
 (413) 786-8735

What Is God's Will?

How can a person know what God's will is for his or her life? Is it possible to really know if our thoughts, words, and deeds are okay with God? Admittedly, not everyone really cares about those questions. But some do. And some people, whose intentions are to live in accordance with God's will, struggle from time to time with confusion. Sometimes we get conflicting ideas, or messages from our life experiences, and it's hard to know the right thing to do.

The Bible tells us we can know the will of God for our lives, if we really want to. **How can young people keep their way pure? By guarding it according to Your Word. With my whole heart I seek You; do not let me stray from Your commandments. I treasure Your Word in my heart, so that I may not sin against You.**

The first issue raised by the Bible in this passage is the matter of the will. The question being raised implies another question: Does the person want to keep her or his way pure? If the answer is really "No," then there is not much more to talk about. The rest of the conversation will merely consist of rationalization for a person to do what he or she pleases. There are many people who are merely looking for an excuse or justification to do whatever they want to do. The

Bible won't help them.

Once a person determines she or he really does want to do what's right, the Bible arms us with instruction. There is a difference between right and wrong, and it can be determined by anybody who cares to know! But, we have to want our lives to be pure, it doesn't happen automatically. We have to do something.

Guard it (our lives) according to Your Word. The word "guard" in Hebrew is "Shamar." It means "to keep," "to keep watch," "to protect" or "to preserve." Who does the guarding, protecting, preserving? God? No, the person. God provides the means of guarding our lives, but it is up to us to actually do it. God won't do it for us. We exercise our free will and guard our own lives.

Some people mistakenly think that the life of faith is a free ride. It is easy to become a Christian. All a person has to do is admit to themselves and to God that he or she is less than perfect, and to receive God's forgiveness for our sins by accepting Jesus Christ as our personal Savior and Lord. However, it is not so easy to be a Christian. Being a Christian means making difficult choices. When we make the correct choice in a given situation, we are guarding our lives according to God's Word. When we choose a path in opposition to God's Word, we expose ourselves to danger.

The New Testament describes the Word of God as "the sword of the Spirit." It's a weapon, with which we defend ourselves from the world, the flesh, and the devil. But a weapon left on the shelf, not being carried on the person, is of no value when trouble arises.

I will treasure Your Word in my heart, so that I may not sin against You. God's first and best way to communicate with any of us is through His Word, the Bible. All the big questions of life are addressed in the Scripture. But that won't do us any good at all if we are ignorant of what the Bible says.

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BERKSHIRE POWER AND WATER

Water is a "Mom and apple pie issue". Opponents of Berkshire Power know that and have tried to scare folks about the fact that Berkshire Power will be water cooled.

Well, Berkshire Power will be water cooled. **Environmentalists and power plant regulators like that a lot.**

If the plant were air cooled, it would raise air pollution. It would also create a lot of noise - noise pollution.

Water is a renewable resource. There is as much water on the earth today as there was when Dinosaurs walked through Agawam.

Agawam's water comes from the Cobble Mountain Reservoir which re-fills at an average of **55.5 million gallons per day (everyday - fact)**. That's **more than 35** Berkshire Power plants.

Agawam is part of the City of Springfield's water system and officials from both Springfield and Agawam have indicated that there is more than enough water to supply the project. In fact, **a newspaper article last year indicated that the system has an abundance of water.**

The Water Department Manager was quoted as saying, **"If it did not rain for the next 24 months, we would have to start worrying, but we know that is not going to happen"**.

The average water demand from the Berkshire Power Project will represent only 4% of the 1994 average use throughout the entire Springfield system. The Water Department Manager said the use of water by system customers, which averages 36 to 37 million gallons per day, could safely be **doubled** on the system.

The reason some local communities have water restrictions is because their water pipes are old and too small. Agawam taxpayers invested millions of dollars for a new, larger pipe system to accommodate hoped for new business development.

Berkshire Power will be paying the same water rate as every other user. The combined water and sewer payment by Berkshire Power to Agawam will total approximately \$970,000. These revenues will serve to help stabilize rates.

So don't be fooled. The facts are clear. Weigh them and decide.

PLEASE VOTE YES ON QUESTION ONE

Paid for by Berkshire Power

Church News - continued...

News & Notes From
F.H. Congregational

You are welcome to join with us at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills. The Worship hour begins at 10:00 a.m. and will include the Service of Holy Communion.

The lectionary readings for Sunday, November 2nd, with be Ruth 1:1-18, Psalm 146; or Deuteronomy 6:1-9, Psalm 119:1-8; Hebrews 9:11-14, Mark 12:28-34.

Rev. Donaldson's sermon title will be, "What We Do Matters."

Children should attend worship with their parents, leaving at the designated time for Sunday School; nursery care will be provided for the very young.

Please note that the office will be closed on Friday, October 31st.

If you dined at our restaurant at the Big E, you already know what good cooks we are! You can enjoy another delicious meal here at the church on Saturday, November 15th.

The menu will include chicken pie, vegetables, beet relish, rolls, pie, and beverage. If you've never delighted in our delicious dinners, why not come in?

Meals cost \$7 for adults, \$2.50 for children under eight, preschool-age children are free, and will be served at 5:00 and 6:15 p.m.

For reservations, call Betty Bava at 786-0679 or Barbara Swanson at 786-5732.

Sermon schedule through November 30th:

* **November 2nd** - "What We Do Matters."

Scripture: Hebrews 9:11-14.

Theme: Rearranging ourselves to go where God calls us.

* **November 9th** - "Everyday Life As A Spiritual Path."

Scripture: 1 Kings 17:8-16.

Theme: There is no mystery to developing greater spirituality.

* **November 16th** - "How Do We Pray?"

Scripture: 1 Samuel 1:4-20.

Theme: Praying for what we need.

* **November 23rd (Thanksgiving Sunday)** - "Time Of Judgment, Time Of Thanks."

Scripture: Daniel 7:9-14

Theme: Our priorities.

* **November 30th (First Sunday of Advent)** - "The Interior Decorator."

Scripture: Jeremiah 33:14-16.

Theme: God's wonderful promise.

On the calendar:

Friday, October 31st: Office closed.

Sunday, November 2nd: 10:00 a.m., Service of Holy Communion.

Monday, November 3rd: 4:00 to 5:30 p.m., Girl Scouts; 7:00 p.m., Council.

Tuesday, November 4th: 7:00 p.m., A.A.

Wednesday, November 5th: 7:00 p.m., Choir rehearsal.

Thursday, November 6th: 7:00 p.m., A.A.

Weekly Calendar
For Next Few Weeks
At Ag. Congregational

This Sunday, November 2nd, is Communion Sunday. Worship Service continues at 10:30 a.m. at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam.

Rev. Fuller's sermon will be "With All Your Heart, and All Your Mind, and All Your Soul," taken from Text: Mark 12:28-34. The Children's Message will be "Give It Your All."

This is also "Bring A Friend Sunday" for our Church School Program. Students are asked to bring a friend to their class and for fellowship following classes.

A Pizza and Fun BINGO night will also be held this Sunday from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. Join us for food, fun, fellowship, and BINGO with prizes, prizes, and more prizes.

The Hearing for our Capital Fund Drive is also this Sunday during the Worship Service. Results from the Priority Meeting will be discussed.

Church School continues at 9:00 a.m. for grades seven through 12, and at 10:30 a.m. for three year-olds through grade six.

The Church School will be using the "Whole People of God." This week's theme is "Choosing to Love," taken from text Ruth: 1:1-18.

This highly praised program will be used for every age group.

The Open Pantry item for this Sunday is jelly. Items collected each week are donated to the Agawam/West Springfield Open Pantry.

The Junior High Group will meet this Sunday, November 2nd, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. This meeting is for all Junior High youth.

At this meeting, the youth will be making brownies and cookies for the Stewardship Meeting on Monday, November 3rd. Call the church office at 786-7111 for more information concerning this group.

The youth group fundraiser this year is again the Christmas Wreaths. These beautiful wreaths (with big red bow) are only \$10 for each wreath. Decorate your doors, windows, and home for the Christmas season.

Orders are being taken during the coffee hour, or call the church office to order yours today. The pick-up date for the wreaths is November 16th; if you cannot pick up your wreath, they will deliver to your home.

A Pasta Supper has been planned by our Catering Committee for Saturday, November 15th, at 5:30 p.m. The menu includes pasta with meat-sauce, salad, Italian bread, ice cream and sauce, and beverages. The cost is \$5 for adults, and \$3 for children.

For reservations, call the church office at 786-7111 or Jerry Hamel at 786-2908. Reservations close on November 14th.

best local news

Sunday School To
Feed The Hungry At
Hands-On Mission

All the Sunday School classes of the church will be doing some hands-on mission work on Sunday, November 2nd, at Valley Community Church, 152 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills.

Children of all ages will participate in both the preparing and serving of a supper meal to the Loaves and Fishes in Springfield.

This work has been a continuing effort on the part of the church Mission Board in reaching out to help our local community. The Youth Group of the church has participated in serving this meal several times during the past year and are excited to help guide the younger children.

During Fellowship time and Sunday School class time, these children will be busy preparing the evening meal, as they listen to teachers explaining the importance of following God's Word in helping those in need.

We ask that all the parents of the church children be sure to have them attend Sunday worship. The children are also asked to return to the church at 4:15 p.m. to help load the cars with food and travel over to Springfield.

They are expected back at the church around 5:45 p.m. Parents are also invited to help serve at Loaves and Fishes.

Valley Community
Slates Next Supper
For November 8th

If you missed last month's Chicken Supper at Valley Community Church, you missed a packed house and some great fellowship. But don't feel too bad, you have another chance on Saturday, November 8th. That's when the Supper Committee will gather to serve "the best chicken supper in the valley."

The menu will again feature: baked chicken, stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, two hot vegetables, tossed salad, olives, pickles, cranberry sauce, rolls with butter, and a beverage. And you still have the decision of choosing from the "community-famous" dessert table which is overloaded with guaranteed-fattening, delectable, mouth-watering desserts.

Continuous servings are available from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. The cost is \$7 for adults and \$3.50 for children under 12.

If last month's crowd is any indication, we strongly suggest making reservations by calling Shirley Taylor at 786-2576 or Dot Wells at 786-6031.

Valley Community Church is located "high on the hilltop" at 152 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills.

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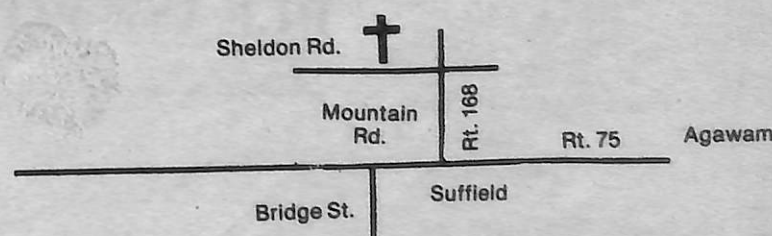
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Friends Have
Yet To Meet.

- Sunday Service At 9:30.
- "Promise Keepers" Men's Breakfast On Alternate Saturdays.
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Reverend Peter Monahan
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Fresh Ground Round	
5 Lbs. Or More	\$2.49 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.99 Lb.
Fresh Ground Chuck	
5 Lbs. Or More	\$1.69 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.39 Lb.
Flavorite Lean Sliced Bacon (1 Lb. Pkg.)	\$1.69
Flavorite Meat Franks (1 Lb. Pkg.)	79¢
Grade "A" Chicken Breast	
Whole	\$1.19 Lb.
Split	\$1.39 Lb.

* PORK SALE *

Center Cut Pork Chops Or Roast	\$2.49 Lb.
Loin End Roast	\$1.69 Lb.
Boneless Roast (Cut From Loin Or Rib End)	\$1.99 Lb.
Fresh Ground Pork	\$1.89 Lb.
Country Style Ribs	\$1.89 Lb.
Whole Pork Loins	\$1.79 Lb.

SEAFOOD

Frozen Swordfish Steak	\$3.99 Lb.
Frozen Crab Meat (Salad Style) (11.3 Oz. Can)	\$4.99

Tuesday & Wednesday SPECIALS

American Heritage
White American
Cheese

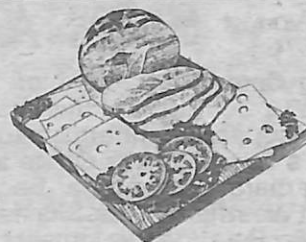
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Sunday Only —
November 2nd

Frozen
Hamburg Patties

\$6.99 (5 Lb. Box)

DELI



Land O' Lakes White American Cheese	\$2.89 Lb.
Russer German Bologna	\$1.19 Lb.
Hormel Genoa Salami	\$2.99 Lb.
Krakus Imported Ham	\$3.99 Lb.
Thumann's Gourmet Turkey Breast	\$4.99 Lb.
Russer Low Salt Ham	\$3.49 Lb.
Fresh Seafood Salad	\$3.99 Lb.

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88¢ A Bag

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Local All Purpose Potatoes (10 Lb. Bag)	\$1.19
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Fresh Yams	59¢ Lb.
Rosebud Carrots (1 Lb. Bag)	39¢
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Bananas	39¢ Lb.
New Crop California Oranges (Jumbo Size)	49¢ Each
Florida Pink Grapefruit	3 For \$1.00

DAIRY

Sweet Life 1% Low Fat Milk (Gallon)	\$2.19
Sweet Life 2% Low Fat Milk (Gallon)	\$2.29
Hood Half & Half Cream (Quart)	99¢
Jumbo Grade "A" Eggs (Dozen)	99¢

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(All Varieties)
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Can Of Soda



Spotlight On Business

Local Chimney Sweep Says Now Is The Time To Clean It!!!

Local chimney sweep Tom Fortier of American Home Safety Co. is offering Town residents an opportunity to win a free cleaning by having the dirtiest chimney cleaned during November.

October is National Fire Prevention Month and to support the Agawam Fire Department and Fire Chief David Pisano's continuing effort to educate residents on Fire Safety & Prevention, Tom is offering a free cleaning (rebate) for the winner.

To qualify, all you have to do is call Tom at (413) 789-7345 for a free cursory inspection and have your chimney cleaned if needed. Photos will be taken and the winner selected on December 1st.

A dirty or malfunctioning chimney can be life-threatening from carbon monoxide and a serious fire hazard. As we enter the heating season, the Agawam Fire Department recommends that homeowners have their heating systems checked by a certified technician. All fuel burning heating systems need air to operate efficiently.

The system takes fresh air from its surroundings and uses it in the combustion process. If the heating system cannot get enough fresh air, or it cannot exhaust the burnt products properly, the fire produces excessive unburned products of combustion. One of the most deadly products is carbon monoxide.

Those homeowners who use wood burning stoves for heating should have their chimneys cleaned every heating season to ensure the chimney's flue is free of any obstruction. This will ensure proper exhausting of the combustion products, reducing the likelihood of carbon monoxide building up in the home.

The National Fire Prevention Association recommends all chimneys (fireplace, oil, gas, wood & pellet stoves & vents) should be checked annually for soundness, freedom from deposits, and correct clearances with cleaning, maintenance, and repairs done if needed.

In addition to having smoke and carbon monoxide detectors installed and properly working, homeowners should have their chimneys checked if they can smell the odor or see soot or creosote in the stove or fireplace, on the chimney top (cap) or dripping/leaking anywhere from top to bottom. Other problems to look for are sparks exiting the chimney, smoke back-up or puffing, down drafts and flashbacks, also oil fumes or smoke when the furnace goes on and water damage on walls or ceilings near the gas chimney. Any missing or damaged mortar, flue tiles, or bricks should be checked and repaired to prevent further damage.

A special discount will be provided to all Town residents who mention this program when they call.



AGAWAM FIRE CHIEF DAVID PISANO and local chimney sweep Tom Fortier both say it's time to get your chimney cleaned as the winter season swiftly approaches. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Landry, Lyons & Whyte Appoints New Sales Associate

Laurence D. Landry of LANDRY, LYONS & WHYTE Co./Better Homes and Gardens is pleased to announce that Barbara Tourville has joined the firm's Feeding Hills Office as a Sales Associate.

Barbara received her Bachelor of Arts Degree from Westfield State. She has been the Director of Public Relations/Volunteers at Shriners Hospital and presently has her own business in Agawam, The Business Associate. She is a long-time resident of Feeding Hills.

"We are pleased that Barbara has chosen LANDRY, LYONS & WHYTE Company to pursue her career in real estate," stated Landry.

LANDRY, LYONS & WHYTE Co./Better Homes and Gardens is the largest real estate firm in the Pioneer Valley and has over 200 salespeople and 11 offices with locations in East Longmeadow, Springfield, Sixteen Acres, Palmer, Chicopee, Feeding Hills, South Hadley, Longmeadow, West Springfield, Westfield, and Wilbraham.

Legal Memo

by
Alan J. Ferrigno, Esq.
546 Springfield St., F.H.
(413) 786-9454



The Employee Personnel Manual

Many employers issue personnel manuals to employees which often outline the conditions and terms of the employment relationship.

The question arises as to whether these employment manuals are "contracts" to which an employer can be held or which they simply state the "policies" of the employer which the employer can, and often do, totally disregard and unilaterally change.

Under Massachusetts law, a Court is more likely to hold that a personnel manual issued to employees imposes a contractual obligation on the employer to treat the employee in accordance with the provisions of the manual. Although many times the employer did not sign the manual, a Court may impose a contractual obligation upon the employer if:

- (a) The employee receives a copy of the personnel manual annually;
- (b) The employer did not reserve the right to unilaterally change the provisions of the employee manual;
- (c) The manual did not contain any reservation of rights or disclaimer of obligations;
- (d) The employer followed the procedures contained in the employee manuals as regular administrative practice; and...
- (e) The manual provided more than general guidance as to the employee policies.

The principle that promises made in a personnel manual may be binding on an employer is accepted in a clear majority of American jurisdictions. The idea that an employer may ignore promises made in a personnel manual is in increasing disfavor in this country.

Regional Chamber Slates Breakfast At Oaks Banquet Hall

The monthly Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce breakfast will take place **Wednesday, November 5th at the Oaks Banquet Hall** in Agawam.

Businesses to be honored that day are American Saw & Manufacturing Co., Goodwill Industries, Greater Springfield Senior Services, Gus and Paul's, Rock 102, The Springfield Slamm, United Cooperative Bank, and Westfarms.

Lots of fun and surprises are expected because the M.C.'s of the event will be Greater Springfield Lincoln-Mercury president Harvey Clay and Bell Atlantic executive Carol Mitchell.

The doors open at 7:15 a.m. and the program begins at 8:00 a.m. For tickets (\$10 each) or additional information, call the Chamber at (413) 787-1555.

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Last Weekend For The

Great Pumpkin Adventure

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Open Saturdays & Sundays Thru November 2nd
11:00 AM - 5:00 PM

\$3.50 Per Person

Hayride through "Dead Man's Woods"

Face Painting - Hay Maze - Corn Maze - Cider & Popcorn - Pony Rides

Directions: At Sarat Ford, take North Street. James Street is the 5th street on the right.

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Write-in Abe Kasparian

Town Councilor

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Feeding Hills
786-4820

All About Headaches

An exciting study was recently published in the "Journal of Manipulative & Physiological Therapeutics." The study demonstrated that spinal manipulation has a significant positive effect in cases of cervicogenic headache.

A cervicogenic headache is defined as a pain perceived to arise from or be localized within the head, but actually originates in the neck.

The most common cause of a cervicogenic headache is trauma to the head and neck (like a whiplash injury) or mechanical pain (pain from muscle ligaments and joints of the cervical spine). Mechanical pain is aggravated by movement and relieved by rest. The symptoms may be very similar to a migraine, although the causes are different.

Some symptoms of cervicogenic headache include: headaches can be daily; can range from 1-3 days; can be mild to moderate to severe; common analgesic medication can relieve the headache in the early stages, though with time, the patient may develop a tolerance and require stronger medication.

The location of the headache can be one side of the head or both, and often the pain starts in the neck or back of the head and spreads forward into the eye or forehead. Oftentimes, the neck motion is decreased. Movements or staying in one place for a period of time may initiate a headache. The good thing about this type of headache is that chiropractic care may provide lasting headache relief.

The study that I cited earlier in the article stated that those who received a chiropractic manipulation for their cervicogenic headache decreased their analgesic use by 36 percent; decreased their headache hours by 69 percent; decreased their headache intensity by 36 percent.

This is exciting information! If you are suffering with headaches, call our office today. Next week I'll tell you the story of my relative and his headaches!

Fitness First Slates Annual Open House On Saturday, Nov. 1st

On Saturday, November 1st, Fitness First Health and Fitness Center in Feeding Hills will celebrate 12 years of being in business by inviting the public to its annual Open House celebration from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The day's scheduled activities will be free and open to the public. There will be a variety of events throughout the day with free use of the facilities for anyone wishing to try out the club.

The activities will include:

- The club will be presenting its new children's gym equipment that is used for the new gym classes and birthday parties starting at 11:30 a.m. If you are interested in bringing in your child to try out this equipment, please call the club to register.

- The club's nursery will be open during tours and workouts from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

- Children under seven years of age are welcome to attend the Halloween Party from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

- There will be several spinning demonstrations to promote the club's newest workout at 9:00 a.m., 12:00 noon, 2:00 p.m., and 4:00 p.m. Spinning is a cycling class led by an instructor to high-energy music. Bring bike shorts if you wish to try it!

- Free refreshments will be provided from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

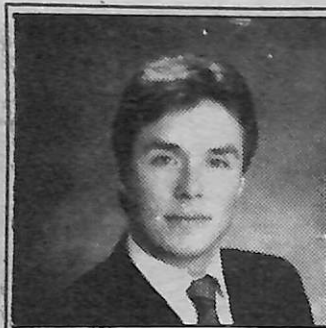
- The swimming pool will be open to the public from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m.

- The club's fitness classes will feature a free trial "fat burner" class at 9:15 a.m., and a free special "cardio jam" class at 1:00 p.m. for anyone in good health who would like to participate.

- There will be blood pressure checks available and free body fat analysis throughout the day.
- The club's Tai Chi program with Mike Wollmershauser will offer a free demonstration from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

- WPKX Kix Country 97.9 FM will be broadcasting live and offering free give-a-ways from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

For more information on the day's events and the club's special enrollment offer, please stop by or call Fitness First at 786-1460. The club is located at 60 North Westfield Street in Feeding Hills Center.



Your Back And Your Health

**by Dr. Joseph
S. Schlaffer
Schlaffer
Chiropractic Offices
192 Shoemaker Lane
Agawam**

More On Raking Leaves

I'm beginning to see those patients who have overdone their leaf raking! A recent column of mine gave some helpful hints.

Apparently, it needs some further awareness. Those who raked and raked and raked and bent repeatedly, stuffing more than necessary into leaf bags have been left with more than the satisfaction of a job well done.

Back pain and associated leg pain that remains for more than a few days can mean troubles in the spine.

The amount of physical stress to the lumbar spine (lower back) during leaf raking is equivalent to shoveling snow after a heavy snow storm.

For many of us, this year's physical aches

New Support Group For Cancer

Learning that your parent has cancer is difficult for children of all ages. But discovering you're not alone and sharing your feelings and concerns with others in the same situation can help.

Children of cancer patients now have that opportunity, through a new support group at Mercy Hospital. The group's next meeting will take place Monday, November 3rd, 7:00 p.m., in the hospital's Deliso Conference Center.

Meetings are led by skilled facilitators from Mercy Hospital's Pastoral Care Department and are free of charge. Persons of all ages are welcome.

For more information, call the Pastoral Care Department, (413) 748-9453.

and pains, especially in the lower back. In some, the pain just won't go away. Leaf raking is strenuous to the muscles and ligaments of the lower back.

All that twisting, pulling, and bending is especially hard on the spine. Spinal subluxation (misalignment of vertebrae) often occurs in the lumbar region. Disc problems may also result.

To diminish the odds for those undesirable problems, it's important to keep your back in good shape. Next time, warm up before beginning your work. Slowly stretch and limber up the muscles in your back. Don't forget your leg and arm muscles, too!

Remember to alternate raking from the left and right sides to maintain proper balance of the spinal muscles. When loading leaves into a bag, be sure to bend your legs rather than your back. Keep these bags small when the leaves are damp and heavy. Even if you are in good physical condition, shifting and compression of the spinal vertebrae and discs may occur.

When the pain doesn't go away in a reasonable time, spinal examination and appropriate chiropractic treatment is advised. By correcting improper alignment and abnormal function, your chance of having back pain or more serious spinal problems is less. For further information, call the SCHLAFER CHIROPRACTIC OFFICE at 789-1369.

Heritage Woods Has Free Wellness Day

On Thursday, November 6th, Heritage Woods, in conjunction with Genesis ElderCare® Rehabilitation Services and the University of Connecticut is sponsoring a free physical therapy wellness screening.

The screening will take place from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at Heritage Woods and registration is required. Heritage Woods is an assisted living facility located at 462 Main Street in Agawam.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call the Heritage Woods at (413) 786-9704.

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Arts

Reception Slated For Agawam Community Artists' Art Show

The yearly Agawam Community Artists' art show will be at the Agawam Public Library, with the reception beginning at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, November 7th.

Following the reception, a demonstration of watercolor painting will be given by Edward Minchin, A.W.S. Admission is free.

Funding has been provided through a grant from the Agawam Cultural Council and the Massachusetts Cultural Council. Mr. Minchin is a nationally famous artist whose work has been written up and featured in many prominent art books in this country.

Do not miss this interesting personality as well as look at the current artwork of the ACA members. The exhibit will be held at the library for the entire month of November.

Agawam Community Artists Schedule Next Meeting

The Agawam Community Artists' next meeting will take place on Thursday, November 6th, beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the Captain Charles Leonard House, Main Street, Agawam.

There will be a short business meeting prior to a slide presentation by Stephen J. Atkinson, an emigre from England who specializes in the watercolor art school of the late 18th century.

Atkinson will give details and anecdotes about the lives of famous painters of that time, and demonstrate points about their techniques with paintings he has rendered. Furthermore, he gives his demonstration in period costume.

This program is open to the public at no charge.

Family Feature Night At Agawam Library On Monday, Nov. 3rd

Agawam and Feeding Hills families with school aged children are invited to Feature Film Night at the Agawam Public Library on Monday, November 3rd, at 6:30 p.m., for a showing of "Kids of the Round Table."

This feature length film brings the legend of King Arthur back to life. Bring something comfortable to sit on, and we'll supply a snack.

PLEASE REGISTER FOR THIS PROGRAM BY CALLING 789-1550, OR VISITING THE LIBRARY.

Please remember that our deadline is every Tuesday at noon.

ACROSS

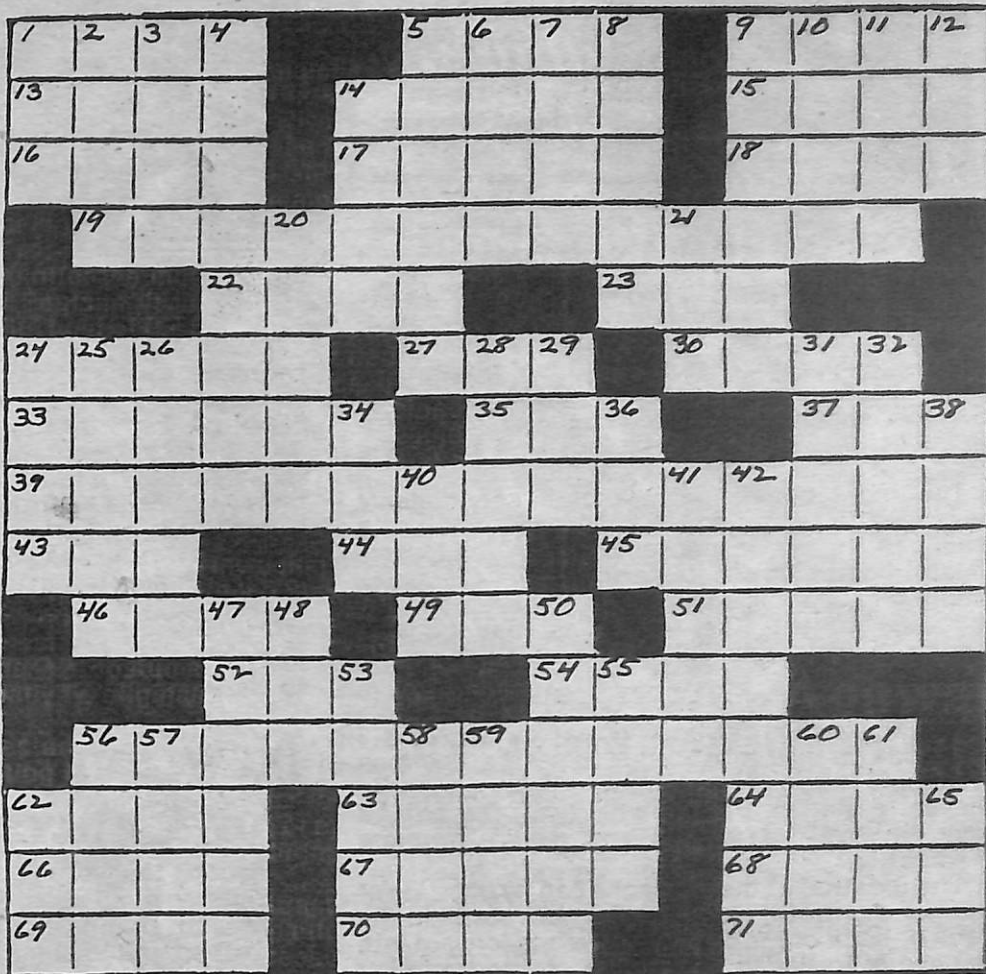
- 1 Leoncavallo opera
- 5 Brinker of silver skates fame
- 9 Western flat top
- 13 Prayer conclusion
- 14 Decrepit abode
- 15 Sacred bull of Egypt
- 16 Persian sprite
- 17 Aida or Norma
- 18 River with many cataracts
- 19 Gaul once
- 22 Sheltered side
- 23 Actress Arden
- 24 Magna —
- 27 Hammarskjold
- 30 "— the Red"
- 33 Unwelcome guests
- 35 Fawn's mater
- 37 Sailor (slang)
- 39 "All ———" (proverb)

- 43 Newt
- 44 Sweet potato
- 45 Avoids
- 46 Soho so long
- 49 Female ruff
- 51 Curved letters
- 52 B.P.O.E. member
- 54 Wrongful act
- 56 Where Caesar drank?
- 62 O.K. Corral name
- 63 Duck
- 64 Golfing sand bane
- 66 Often bitter to swallow
- 67 Light beam weapon
- 68 Repose
- 69 S.A. arrow poison
- 70 Caustics
- 71 River hazard

DOWN

- 1 Get rid of (slang)
- 2 Part of OAS (abbr.)
- 3 Hour to attack
- 4 Full of life

MEET THE MASTER - by Dick Mastroianni

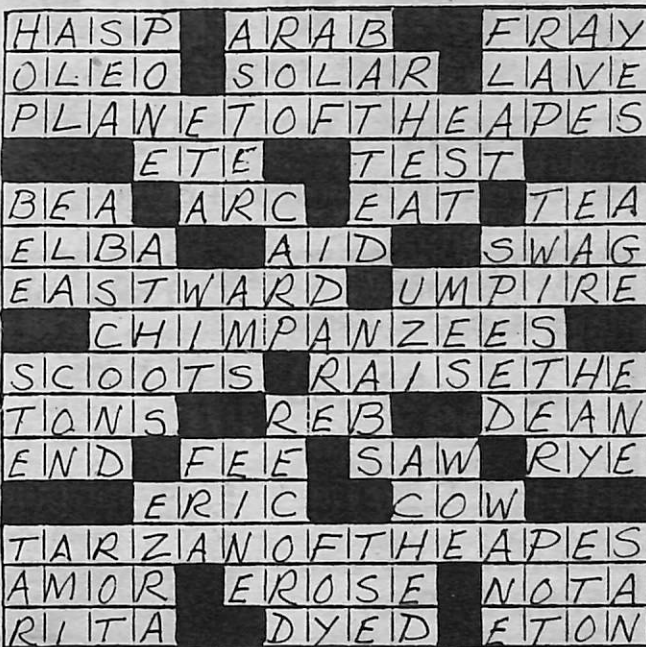


- 5 Jumped about
- 6 State strongly
- 7 Roman fiddler
- 8 Toil endlessly
- 9 "— of speaking"
- 10 The Iliad, for one
- 11 Small herring
- 12 Peer Gynt's mother
- 14 Sharpen
- 20 King and Hale

- 21 "— got a secret"
- 24 Package for the needy
- 25 In the air
- 26 Lasso
- 28 "There is nothing like —"
- 29 Deity
- 31 Stravinsky et al
- 32 French nobleman
- 34 Like a fox
- 36 Greek letter
- 38 HST's lady
- 40 Corn unit
- 41 Open to view

- 42 Says another way
- 47 God's dwelling place
- 48 "— king"
- 50 Musical studies
- 53 Toll in a mournful manner
- 55 Unique personage
- 56 April event
- 57 Shield border
- 58 Whip
- 59 "Great —" (English river)
- 60 Persia today
- 61 Space agency
- 62 Ear (Fr.)
- 65 Cribbage man

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Education



Guidance Column...

by Paul C. Cavallo
Deputy Principal

The "Senior Handbook"

The Guidance Department has prepared a **SENIOR HANDBOOK** which was given to every senior in September of this year. The **SENIOR HANDBOOK** contains important information for students and parents about the senior year.

The most important segment of this booklet is the **Senior Timetable**, which outlines the responsibilities of the student, the counselor, and the parents in the planning process. Remove this page and post it on your refrigerator door. Look at it from time to time as a reminder, since deadlines are listed.

For your convenience, I am including the page from the **SENIOR HANDBOOK** for you information. In future columns, I will allude to sections of the **SENIOR HANDBOOK** that I feel will serve as timely reminders.

IMPORTANT DATE - MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Financial Aid Night: Monday, December 8, 1997 at 7:00 p.m., Agawam High School Cafeteria. Dr. Lee Sirois from A.I.C. will present this very informative program. More information will follow.

SENIOR TIMETABLE FOR FALL 1997

1. Achieve the best grade possible. Colleges are always looking for improvement.
2. Meet individually with your guidance counselor to finalize your post-graduation plans.
3. Read the Guidance Bulletin every Friday. It contains important information on college open houses, visiting college representatives, and financial aid.
4. Attend information sessions with college representatives by signing up at least a day in advance in the guidance office.
5. Register for the October and/or November SAT I or SAT II. Watch for deadlines.
6. Make appointments for college visits and interviews if possible.
7. Complete all sections of your college applications with care. **Neatness counts!** Applications should be either typed or neatly written in black ink. Watch deadlines. Remember that the guidance office would like your applications before Christmas vacation.
8. The financial aid process begins when you apply for admission. Complete all forms requested by your college.
9. Complete the CSS Financial Aid Profile if it is required by any of your colleges.
10. Attend Financial Aid Night at Agawam High School in December. The financial aid application process is very complicated, and this informational session is very important!
11. If you have any questions, **ask your counselor!** The only stupid question is the one you don't ask.

GUIDANCE BULLETIN

OPEN HOUSES: For more information on the following Open Houses, see your counselor.

Drexel University - Sunday, November 16th.

Juniata College - November 23rd-24th.

UMass Dartmouth - November 2nd.

Drew University - November 14th or November 22nd.

University of Scranton - November 2nd.

Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts - November 15th and December 6th.

SCHOLARSHIPS: See your counselor for more information.

Champlain College Honors Scholarships.

Saint Michael's College State Scholarship Program.

DeVry Institute's Presidential Scholarships.

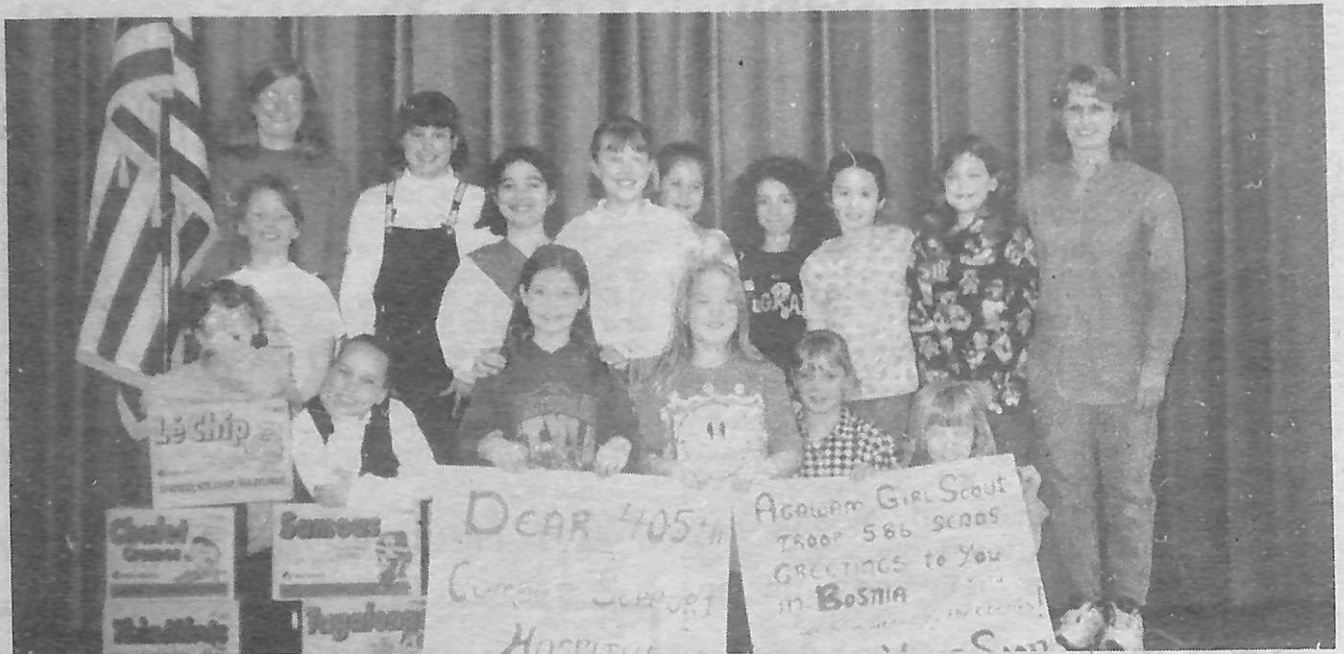
James Clark School Joining News40 In Collecting Coats

James Clark School has a theme this year of school and community spirit and respect.

During the month of October, James Clark will be joining News40 in collecting Coats for Kids. Thanks to everyone for your support during our fall fundraiser.

The fall book fair was October 20th through the 24th. Please remember to keep sending in your BoxTops for Education plus your Hershey, Hefty, and Kodak UPC codes.

The next PTO meeting will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 12th at 3:30 p.m.



TROOP 586 pictured, back row, from left - Kelly Horton, leader Stephanie Bertagnolli, Alicia Hall, Alex Kozac, Page Roberts, Kelse LaPlante, Kayla Pepper, Angela Velosky, Stephanie Revard, and leader Patti Baskin. Front row - Ali Bertagnolli, Egypt Robinson, Tammy Gorman, Sarah Bulmer, Natasha Egan, and Leah Mutti. Missing: Jessica Thibideau.



SOME OF THE 63 Reservists with their smiles and cookies - Sarah Bulmer's dad, Dan Bulmer, is pictured on the far right.

Troop 586 Donates Cookies To 405th Combat Support Hospital

The 405th Combat Support Hospital sends a big "thank you" to Agawam Troop 586 for their gift of Girl Scout cookies.

Deployed in March, 63 members of the 405th Combat Support Hospital (including Sarah Bulmer's dad, Dan) were sent to operate a military hospital in Tuzla, Bosnia. Troop 586, headed by

Stephanie Bertagnolli and Patti Baskin, thought it would cheer up the men and women of the 405th if they had something from home.

Fifty boxes of Girl Scout cookies arrived in April, and they were shared by all 63 reservists. They were expected to arrive home on October 25th after over eight months of military service.

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Agawam Schools' Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, November 3rd: Steamed frankfort in roll, oven-baked beans, potato puffs with catsup, chilled peaches in syrup, milk.

Tuesday, November 4th: Grilled cheese sandwich, pickle chips, tossed garden salad with dressing, pineapple tidbits or chocolate brownie, milk.

Wednesday, November 5th: Roast turkey with gravy, whipped potatoes, seasoned peas and carrots, wheat bread and butter, cranberry sauce, holiday cake with icing, milk.

Thursday, November 6th: Meatballs in tomato sauce, buttered macaroni, seasoned green beans, bread and butter, apple crisp, milk.

Friday, November 7th: Oven-baked sea nuggets, potato puffs with catsup, niblet corn, wheat bread and butter, ice cream cup, milk.

Junior High School Schedules Annual Parent/Teacher Night

On Monday, November 17th, the Agawam Junior High School will conduct its annual Parent/Teacher Conference Night from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. During the week of November 3rd, teachers will mail home invitations for these eight-minute individual conferences.

Parents who receive invitations are asked to telephone the guidance office at 821-0566, either Wednesday, November 12th, or Thursday, November 13th, between 8:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. in order to schedule a time for these conferences. Parents are advised to call promptly to reserve a time that is most convenient for them.

School Principal Kevin C. Littlefield states that parents who do not receive an invitation, but still wish to see an individual teacher, should contact the guidance office on Friday, November 14th, between 8:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., as a limited number of appointments have been made available for those parents.

He points out that any parent calling on Friday, but not able to schedule an appointment for November 17th, will receive a call from the teacher in order to discuss their child's current academic standing.

Mr. Littlefield explains that the conference night format was developed by the staff as a means of eliminating overcrowded conditions and long waiting lines. Also, he believes that communication is more effective during these lengthier appointments.

Mr. Littlefield invites parents to keep in close contact with the school's guidance counselors and teachers in order to monitor their child's progress throughout the academic year.

Agawam Junior Stamp Club To Next Meet Nov. 4th

The regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Agawam Junior Stamp Club will be held on Tuesday, November 4th. The meeting will be in the Granger School Cafeteria.

New member are always welcome. Parents are encouraged to stay and participate.

If you have any questions, contact Glen LaFontaine, 786-4728, or Bonnie Moccio, 821-0580.

Thanksgiving Treats At Public Library On November 12th

Agawam and Feeding Hills preschoolers and their families are invited to a "Thanksgiving Treats" storytime, on Wednesday, November 12th, from 6:30-7:15 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library.

The program will include seasonal stories along with a craft and snack.

REGISTRATION IS A MUST FOR THIS PROGRAM. PLEASE CALL 789-1550, OR VISIT THE LIBRARY.

Agawam Counseling Center Offers GED Program; Sign-Up Now

For most kids, school is an enjoyable and pretty exciting form of work. When learning disabilities, emotional problems, or family stress don't get in the way, most children find a niche for themselves and successfully complete school around 18 or so. They are ready for work, for additional training, or higher education.

Sometimes, however, things do get in the way, and teenagers find that school becomes a prison or a place of repeated failure. Soon it seems that the only way out is to drop out.

Unfortunately, this decision often leaves a residue of poor self-esteem, low-paying jobs, and job insecurity. Once past the usual age of high

school, it becomes harder and harder to return to the world of traditional schooling.

There are a number of programs available to assist people who wish to obtain a Graduate Equivalency Diploma, or GED. At the Agawam Counseling Center, we have a program of GED assessment and pre-testing which can help you decide whether or not you are ready to take the GED test. We can help build your self-confidence and ease some of your test anxiety.

The program meets twice a week and costs \$5 a week. Call the Agawam Counseling Center at 786-6410 for more information.

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Sports

After EL Debacle...

AHS Girls Stop Pitts.; Await Tourney Seed

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

There is no nicer way to end a season than with a win. It gets even better when that win means more than just warm fuzzies and a job well done.

And when you are headed into the Western Mass. Tournament, it can also mean a jump or two in the seeding, which can make life in the playoffs not only easier, but longer as well.

Agawam High School's 3-1 win on a cloudy and dark Monday afternoon over visiting Pittsfield High was such a situation. After absorbing a bitter 5-2 loss to East Longmeadow last week, costing AHS the Kurty Division crown, this was just what the doctor ordered.

"There was no way East Longmeadow was three goals better than us," bemoaned Brownie Coach Mary Murray after the Pittsfield win. (AHS stopped EL 5-2 in the first meeting). "I told my kids that beating a playoff-bound team like Pittsfield will make us a better team come tournament time."

Helped To Soothe The Hurt

Indeed, the Generals have been rated higher in the Western Mass. ratings for most of this season. So, this victory helped to soothe the hurt from the EL debacle and give AHS an overall record of 10-6-2.

The Brownies were indeed the better team on this dank afternoon at Harmon Smith Field. The Brownies had several opportunities early on as they took the play to Pittsfield. The locals' first score came at 29:10. Junior Barbara Maloni established her territory low in front of the goal. It didn't take long for senior Amy Mastroianni, working on the right wing, to find Maloni. The pass was short, crisp, and right on. It allowed Maloni to lift the shot over the keeper's head to put AHS up, 1-0.

The Brownies continued to apply the pressure, knowing one goal wouldn't be enough to beat the Generals. They would score what proved to be the game winner at 23:15 from the incomparable Kristen Patterson. She took a lead pass from sophomore sweeper Sheri Benton at midfield and broke free 50 feet in front of the Pittsfield goal. Her laser beam shot found the back of the net for a 2-0 Agawam lead. It was her 29th goal of the season (to go along with eight assists for a Division I leading 37 total points).

Other Brownie forwards playing well were sophomore Gina Loudfoot (a picture of perpetual motion) and sophomore Amanda Tilden.

The Generals had perhaps their best opportunity of the first half at 18:20. They mounted an attack on the right side and got to within 20 feet of the goalmouth. Only some good defensive work by Benton and keeper Jen Quigley kept Pittsfield off the board.

AHS played good end to end soccer for the rest of the half. Intermission saw AHS up, 2-0. The Brownies had seven first half shots to four for Pittsfield.

With a little over two minutes gone in the second half, Pittsfield scored on a bang, bang cross and shot to cut the Agawam margin to 2-1. Again they settled into end to end soccer.

Maloni Got An Early Christmas Present

The Brownies' insurance goal came on an outright Pittsfield blunder. Maloni, who was flying up and down her wing all afternoon by using her track speed, got the ball and got behind the defense in the center of the Generals' zone.

As she bore down on the net, the Pittsfield keeper came about 20 yards out, managed to beat Maloni to the ball, and then tried to launch it up field. But the ball slammed into Maloni, bounced towards the goal and Maloni simply tapped it into the open net for a 3-1 lead. It was her ninth goal of the season.

After that, the Agawam defense, highlighted by some tough saves courtesy of Quigley, good hustle by Benton, center fullback Jill DeMarco, and others, took over.

Agawam had three second half shots for a total of 10. Pittsfield managed six for a total of 10.

Check our classified pages today!!!



THE LOUDFOOT SISTERS, AIMEE (left) and GINA will both play important roles in the upcoming Division I playoffs for the Agawam High Brownies. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

AHS Gymnasts Rolling Along After Crushing Comp & SHHS

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The Agawam High girls' gymnastics team ran its record to 7-1 on Tuesday evening with a tri-meet win over South Hadley and Chicopee Comp at Kibbe Gymnasium. Once again, the Brownies dominated by winning overall on the beam, bars, and floor.

The vault was the only event that saw a challenge to the Agawam excellence. Leila Sekkal won it with a score of 8.35. She nailed a flip with a twist on the landing to get first place. Second and third went to a Tiger and a Colt, respectively. Other Brownies showing well on the vault included Liz Clark (7.75) and Jess Hansen (7.70).

After that, it was all Agawam. Lindsey Hadden owns the bars and proved it again, taking first with an 8.30. Her routine was clean and powerful. Second went to Leila Sekkal at 8.05. One of the judges commented that Sekkal's routine was one of the more difficult ones a person could do on the bars. Amanda Peters completed the sweep with a 6.50.

The beam saw another Agawam trifecta. Lisa March was steady and her good reverse dismount earned her the top spot with a 7.85. Sekkal grabbed second (7.85) despite a fall (which broke the tie with her teammate, March). Her routine was fluid and graceful. And she nailed her dismount.

Hadden came in third (7.5). She was competing with a hyper-extended right knee, suffered at the start of the season. She stumbled slightly on her dismount landing. After the event, she had a large icepack strapped to the knee.

Brownie Coach Angela Sullivan had been holding her out of every event but the bars. On this evening, however, Hadden wanted to test how far she has come since suffering the injury.

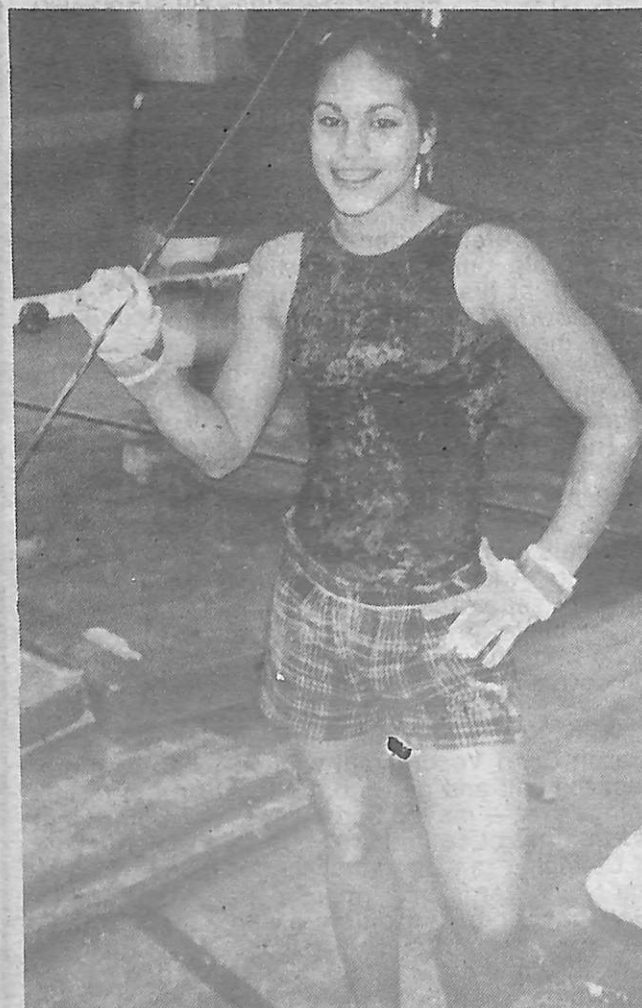
Other Brownies showing well on the beam included Amanda Peters, who (despite a fall) executed a good reverse dismount for a 7.0. Liz Clark managed a 6.0. And, in a gutsy performance, Steph Harnois (despite several falls) kept on going to register a 5.85.

An Agawam Showcase - The Floor Exercise...

The floor exercise has always been an Agawam showcase. They took first and third in that event. Sekkal grabbed the top spot with an 8.8. Her performance was powerful and choreographed perfectly to the music she'd chosen for it. Sekkal is going for a perfect 9.0 in the event.

"I just keep on practicing all the time," remarked Sekkal. "Coach Sullivan added a double salto to my routine. I hit it just right. And that raised my score by six 10ths," she added with a smile.

Lisa Marsh was third (7.9). Her routine is in stark contrast to Sekkal's. Marsh is subtle, moving to the music like a ballerina. From their scores, it's obvious each style works for each athlete.



AGAWAM HIGH GYMNAST Leila Sekkal won the all-around crown in a tri-meet victory over South Hadley and Chicopee Comp on Tuesday night. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

Jess Hansen carded a 7.5. Hansen is a strong leaper who was airborne for much of her routine. Liz Clark (7.3) was acrobatic, covering a lot of mat as she worked.

Michelle Blanchard earned a 7.0 with a performance that was light and airy, almost akin to interpretive dancing. Amanda Peters put in an energetic performance which earned her a 6.9.

The all-around crown went to Leila Sekkal with a score of 33.05. It was four points better than the runner-up.

Bombers Sack Brownies, 28-14...

Bullens Field Again Proves To Be Chamber Of Horrors For AHS Football

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Did you catch the number of the truck that hit us? How about the name of the snake that bit us? They could very well have been the questions asked by the Agawam High football team after their 28-14 loss last Friday night to Westfield. It was their second setback in a row, leaving them at 2-4 overall and 2-1 in the AA Conference.

They certainly were snake-bit in this one. Westfield fumbled four times and recovered three of them. A Brownie punt hit one of their own guys and was recovered by the Bombers, leading to a score. A big Agawam fumble led to another Westfield touchdown. And an interception killed a late-game drive. It all added up to a bummer at the Bombers' Bullens Field.

As usual, the Brownies came out running. Their first possession was an exercise in frustration. The drive started on their own 37 and went down to the Bomber 22. It fizzled via an incomplete pass on fourth and eight. It had taken 6:30 and 12 plays. When you think about it, that's a lot of football time and effort expended with no results. Westfield scored on its drive — a 26-yard strike for six. Brian St. Jean blocked the extra point kick. With 2:47 left in the first quarter, the Bombers led, 6-0.

Agawam could do nothing the second time it touched the ball. The Bombers had no such problems, scoring their second TD on a rollout at the Brownie one-yard line. The two-point conversion made it 14-0, Westfield.

Things were starting to look mighty grim for the Brownies. After the kickoff and a 12-yard return by Ian Lane, Agawam went to work at its own 32-yard line. In a slight deviation from their usual offensive script, they mixed the run with the pass and saw their efforts reap a reward. Brian St. Jean (10-28, 162 yards, two Int.) hit Mike Wing over the middle. Wing, who had his best receiving day of the season (six catches for 128 yards), bulled his way to the Westfield 24 for a gain of 44 yards. Tailback Brian Gallagher (27 attempts, 91 yards, two TD's) then carried three times for 12 yards, getting the ball to the Bomber 14.

After an incomplete pass, St. Jean hit Wing on a curl for an eight-yard gain to the Westfield six. Gallagher got the ensuing hand-off and went in standing up from six yards out for the Brownies' first score of the game with 5:13 left in the half. Tony Planzo's extra point made it 14-7, Westfield.

The Bombers' next possession saw the Agawam defense step up big time after getting burned big time. Tailback Mike St. Jean took a hand-off at his own 23-yard line, found a hole in the Brownie front five, and it was off to the races. Only the speed of Brian St. Jean prevented a score. The Brownie sophomore hauled down the Bomber freshman, after a 66-yard run, at the Agawam 11-yard line.

Three straight runs on first and 10 from the 11 saw the Agawam defensive line (led by Darrell Malachowski, Eric Pedersen, and Ryan Wilson, along with linebacker Brian Gallagher) hold the Bombers for no gain. When they tried to go via the air route, Andy St. Jean (back and playing with a slightly separated shoulder) and Wing, on two super plays, knocked the ball away in the end zone from the receivers. The Brownies took over on downs at their own 11.

What The Coach Wanted...

With 2:15 left in the half and down 14-7, all Coach Dean Vecchiarelli wanted to do was protect the ball and get into the locker room to talk things over — maybe find a way to overcome what wasn't that big a deficit.

Gallagher ran the ball twice for gains of seven and five yards. An incomplete pass and a Gallagher no-gainer on a draw saw them at their 20 with a second and 10 to work with. Gallagher took the hand-off, went off tackle, and had gained five yards when he made a cut and coughed up the ball. It took two bounces. The second one rose up and nestled right into the waiting arms of Brendan Witherell at the Brownie 25. He went down the left side and into the end zone untouched. There were three seconds left in the half. The shell-shocked Brownies dragged a 20-7 deficit into intermission.

The snake was again waiting for the Brownies when the second half fired up. The defense, playing well, thought they had stopped Westfield on the Bombers' first possession. But the punt sailed short and drifted towards the left sidelines. It hit and bounced. The Agawam coverage people were intent on their coverage jobs. So Mike Pedraza never saw the ball until it hit him, careened away, and was recovered by a Bomber.

Instead of the Brownies' ball in decent field position, it was Westfield's ball on Agawam's 33. Westfield's next play was a pass. Andy St. Jean

had the coverage and leapt for a possible interception. He did a little grabbing here and there as he climbed the ladder and got a pass interference for his acrobatics. Andy went slightly ballistic and got an unsportsmanlike penalty tagged onto the interference call. Just like that, the snake slithered the ball to the Brownies' eight-yard line where it was first and goal.

Two runs later and a two-point conversion had the Bombers basking in a 28-7 lead with 9:41 left in the third quarter.

The next time Agawam handled the ball, it went on another long drive from its own 35 to the

Westfield six. There, the locals faced a fourth and goal and decided to go for it. St. Jean took a quick drop and passed over the middle. The ball was caught by the Bombers' Robert Shaw, who ran it out to the Agawam 30. No doubt about it, the Brownies were getting much too familiar with mister snake. A penalty broke the ball back to the six-yard line. But Westfield retained possession.

AHS Finally Gets A Break...

With 5:56 left in the quarter, Agawam finally got a break of its own. Brian St. Jean picked the ball

SEE AHS FOOTBALL - Page 69...



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Super Bowl Champs Central High Next For Brownie Football

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

On Friday night, the Agawam High football team will meet its toughest competition to date in the form of Central High School. The Golden Eagles are 5-1, 2-0 on the season. They are also the defending Division Super Bowl champs and a force to be reckoned with once again.

Last year, at Harmon Smith Field, they just got by the Brownies, 7-0. The Eagles were up by that margin at the half. Agawam played them even in the second 24 minutes.

On Monday, Coach Dean Vecchiarelli sat in the athletic office and pondered the upcoming battle. "We have to have our best week of practice yet if we want to be ready for these guys," he admitted.

His sophomore quarterback, Brian St. Jean, noted a few days later that practice had indeed been going well. "We're pumped," he said. Then he added, "We're loose, too. No one expects us to beat them. Like no one expected us to beat Holyoke."

This will be a battle in the trenches. "It's all going to come down to which line dominates," Vecchiarelli noted. Central's line usually does and not because of stellar pass protection. The Eagles treat that part of the game like a blindfolded walk down I-290 at rush hour. It's just not done.

The Central offensive line isn't big for these parts, averaging only 206 pounds per man across the board. They have been well-schooled by their coaching staff in the art of the run. And they have some horses ready to run out of the backfield.

All-Western Mass. fullback Curtis Upshaw has seven TD's on the season. Curtis, the faithful might remember, scored the winning TD against the Brownies last season. Junior tailback Sha'ki Wheeler, another All-Western Mass. performer, complements Curtis in the backfield. He has five TD's and is a true breakaway threat with 4.5 speed, highlighted by TD runs of 44 and 57 yards to date.

If those two weren't enough to give a defensive coordinator the trots, consider senior quarterback Connell Clark, another All-Western Mass. selection last season. He runs the offense like Patton ran the Third Army. Clark has six overland TD's.

Meat-And-Potatoes Football...

One thing which has to help the Brownies is that there probably will be no tricks, like the South Hadley eight-man line. It will be meat-and-potatoes football — the kind of thing into which you can stick your emotional fork.

The Brownie linebacking corps, made up of Brian Gallagher, Marc Pedraza, Ian Lane, and Mike O'Conner, will be busy. The DB's, led by Brian St. Jean, will be more concerned with smothering the run than covering the pass.

The return of Eric Melbourne, if he is ready, will help on both defense and offense. And if (it's a big if) Agawam can pass against the Eagles, things could get interesting. Central has given up only 64 points in their six games. Aaron Senez, an interceptor and big hitter, is a force at the corner and safety. He is one of the reasons for that statistic.

They have faced two common opponents: Northampton and Holyoke. The Brownies lost to the Blue Devils on opening night, 19-6. Central beat them, 34-14. Central whipped up on Holyoke last week, 40-22. Agawam did likewise in their fourth game of the year, 33-8.

The game will be played at Central. Home field advantage notwithstanding, the Brownies will have nothing much to lose. It could be interesting.

Furious Late Rally Not Enough As AHS Sticks Just Miss Playoffs

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

It's tough to play an entire season giving everything you have and have it all come down to the final minutes of the final game. That's about the way it was last Thursday afternoon for the Agawam High field hockey team. Their 3-3 tie with Minnechaug Regional denied them a spot in the upcoming playoffs. A win was needed to make the cut.

It must be said they didn't go down without a fight. Minnechaug had won their first meeting in Wilbraham, 2-1. That victory was part of the Falcons' 4-7-4 (3-6-2) record coming in. Their playoff hopes had hit the bricks long ago. They, as the old saw goes, were playing for pride. So weren't the Brownies, only they also had to deal with the pressure of grabbing the win, plus the fact that they'd have to do it without star forward Steph Fleming (seven goals, 11 assists), who was out with mono.

The Falcons struck first, barely 30 seconds off the clock. It was a bodacious, ground-hugging slap shot off the stick of Brian Donovan from 40 feet out front. Brownie keeper Mary Elizabeth Dupelle had no chance.

For the first three minutes of the first half, Minnechaug dominated play in the Agawam zone. Finally, at 26:20, midfielder Patty Zerra, accompanied by Shauna Hadden and Kelli Kunkel, started a rush on the left side. That set up a tough midfield battle. Some good defense led by Danielle DeForge stopped the Falcons when they threatened and set up Agawam's first score by Patty Zerra at 23:15. This came off a swarm around the Minnechaug net. Kelli Kunkel got the assist.

Less than three minutes later, Minnechaug, working the left wing almost exclusively, notched its second score to go up 2-1. The Falcons kept up the left-wing pressure. Their efforts were rewarded at the 17:00 mark with their third goal of the first half. Things were not going according to the Brownie script.

Agawam had several good chances as the half wore down, including a shot by Gina Cellilli that was only kept from hitting the back of the net on an excellent save by Falcon keeper Becky Budynkiewicz.

The half ended 3-1, Falcons. They had six shots on net. Agawam answered with four.

A Furious Effort By The Brownies...

Minnechaug would score no more. The second half saw a furious effort by the Brownies to grab the win and a playoff spot. The Falcons, perhaps trying to rub it in, started off fast. It was up to the



AGAWAM'S SHAUNA HADDEN in action for the AHS field hockey team vs. Minnechaug last Thursday afternoon.

Brownie defenders, led by Melissa Berry, Hadden, and Alison Pratt (all seniors and playing in what would be their last game), to blunt the Minnechaug attack. Many Brownies stepped up in that final half of the season finale — Heather Hughes, Jen Zerra, and Amanda Sternowski (along with the usual stars).

Pratt, true to her tri-captain role, led a right-wing rush on the Falcon net with seven minutes to go. Her efforts set up the second Brownie goal off the stick of Kunkel. There were five minutes left. Agawam still had to make up a two-goal deficit (one to tie and one to win).

Pratt, again asserting her leadership, was point on a Brownie assault with 3:37 left. Kunkel cashed in on it with Agawam's third of the contest. Hadden got the assist. "Alison turned in a college-level performance in that game," Brownie Coach Carla Lemnah-Warner asserted.

Unfortunately for Agawam, time was quickly running out on its playoff hopes. Berry and Pratt were everywhere. It was obvious they missed the other captain (Fleming). Would she have made a difference? Of course.

The Brownies would make no excuses. The final scoreboard said it all — '97 season over. Their 8-9-1 (4-8) record was one win short. It was the second year in a row they'd missed the playoffs.

AHS FOOTBALL - from Page 68...

at the Westfield 25 and ran it back to the nine-yard line. Three plays later, Gallagher rumbled over from the one for his second TD of the game and ninth of the season. Planzo's kick made it 28-14.

There would be no more scoring. Westfield did try a field goal attempt at 4:52 at the Brownies' four. Andy St. Jean blocked it. Agawam's final drive after the touchback on the block was deep-seized by an interception at the Westfield 40 with 3:32 left. "You can't do much when the ball doesn't bounce your way," Coach Vec would say later in a profound understatement.

BROWNIE STATS:

RUSHING: Gallagher — 27-90 yards, 2 TD's, 3.3 ypc, lng - 18; Curto — 1-6 yards; Wing - 1, minus 4.
PASSING: B. St. Jean — 10-28, 162 yards, 2 int., 5.7 ypc, lng - 44.

RECEIVING: Wing — 6-123, 23 ypc, lng - 44; Daigneau — 4-34, 8.5 ypc, 8.5, lng - 16; Gallagher — 1-0.

DEFENSE: Brian St. Jean — 1 interception, 1 blocked punt; Andy St. Jean — blocked field goal.

BROWNIE NOTES: After a month-long hiatus, wide receiver Eric Melbourne rejoins the team just in time for Friday's game at Central. "We hope he'll be in some kind of shape," Vecchiarelli said, adding that his senior experience and leadership will help the cause. Melbourne had five catches for 31 yards in two games before he left.

QB Brian St. Jean now has 11 interceptions in six games. The coach explained, "He's just a sophomore and still learning. Brian does very well on the short drops, two or three steps. We haven't helped him much by getting behind early like we've been doing. That means he has to throw and the other team knows it."

Junior Volleyball Being Offered At Turnverein

A Junior Volleyball Program will be offered at the Springfield Turnverein on Garden Street in Feeding Hills. The program will run in two sessions, January 5th to March 6th and March 9th to May 4th.

This program is for youth aged 14-18 and will be run on Friday evening from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the main gym at the Turnverein.

The fee per session is \$35. Make your check payment to the Springfield Turnverein. Any person that is interested in this program should pre-register at the Turnverein Gym on Friday, November 14th or 21st, between 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. dressed to play.

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BEST LOCAL NEWS

Looking Forward To Division I Playoffs...

Brownie Booters Drop Westfield For Second Straight League Crown

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

It was a pretty relaxed bunch of Brownie boys' soccer players who invaded Westfield last Friday. A playoff berth was already in their pocket. A win or a tie over the Bombers, whom they had beaten earlier in the season, 2-1, would give them their second-straight Churchill-Moriarty crown and a step or two up in the tournament. "This win could very well clinch the fourth spot in the tournament for us," Agawam High Coach Dwight Northrup smiled as the bus, chock full of ecstatic players, celebrated with youthful gusto all the way back to Agawam.

For a while, though, it looked as though that celebration might not have happened. The Brownies didn't necessarily start out like the Division champions and 1996 Division I finalist. For a good portion of the first half, Westfield took the play Agawam's way. "True, they were flat. They had to get emotional and it just wasn't happening early," the coach admitted.

While the Brownie offense was looking to launch off the pad, the defense, led by Rich Rodriguez, Dave Thomas, and Jay Flood, worked hard to accommodate them. At the 34:30 mark, keeper Bryan O'Quinn dove low and hard to his right to stop a 20-foot Bomber shot that had eyes for the back of the net. Westfield became even more aggressive after getting that taste. At 23:30, another shot from 30 feet out just scraped over the Agawam crossbar.

The Bombers' first mistake came when they left Joe DiVirgilio unmarked 20 yards into their territory at 22:34. The sophomore laid a pass on the toe of Thomas. He had the lane from 50 feet out in front and pulled the trigger. The ball came in low and hard, finding the left corner of the Westfield goal. It was Thomas's sixth goal of the season and DiVirgilio's eighth assist of the campaign.

AHS Receives "Wake-Up" Call...

Slowly, the Brownies were starting to get the wake-up call. Peter Bitzas, DiVirgilio, and Umberto Santaniello were forcing the Bombers to play some defense with 11 minutes to go. Rodriguez, playing his usual stand up defensive game, headed one labeled for O'Quinn (and trouble) out of harm's way with eight minutes to go.

With two minutes left, Barry Ward took a perfect lead pass from Bitzas and just missed over the center of the Bomber net. A foot lower and it would have gotten by Westfield keeper Dave Seymour.

The half ended, Agawam 1-0. The Brownies had six shots on net as opposed to five for the Bombers.

Agawam had some work to do as the second half dawned on this dreary day. Westfield wasn't going to lie down and curl up. They had every intention of spoiling that bus ride home. Northrup had pulled O'Quinn in favor of Gary Mantolesky. Later, he'd pull Mantolesky and put in Lee Kunkler "They are both seniors and have worked hard this season. They deserved to play in this game and helped us clinch the division," Northrup would say later.

No one will ever know if the new keepers put the charge into the Brownies. With five minutes gone, senior striker Jack Bisco scored what would prove to be the game-winner and division-clincher. It came on a DiVirgilio pass that sailed right at Bisco. He headed it in for his first score of the season. It was fitting that he should taste the fruits of offense since he had played tough, heads-up defense all year long. The assist, DiVirgilio's second of the game, gave him a season total of nine.

Westfield would get its lone goal on an indirect kick at the 28-minute mark. After that, the Brownie

defense, which would end the regular season giving up just 1.16 goals a game, took over and blunted the Bomber offensive forays until the final two toots of the whistle.

Agawam had three second-half shots for a total of nine. The Bombers finished with two for a total of seven.

Agawam finished the regular season at 9-5-4 and 8-1-3 in the Churchill-Moriarty.

BROWNIE NOTES: Jay Hanscom, out for the past four weeks, will rejoin the team just in time for the playoffs. While he was active for the first eight games of the season, the senior had three goals and two assists.

By the time this issue comes out, Agawam should know where it stands in the Western Mass. Tournament seedings. Last season, they went all the way to the finals at Szot Park before being beaten by Division I champion and state finalist Cathedral.

Sign-Ups For Ag. Wrestling Club

Forms for the Agawam Wrestling Club are available in the Agawam Parks & Recreation Office between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. For further information, contact Dan Sullivan (786-6265) or Kirk Parker.

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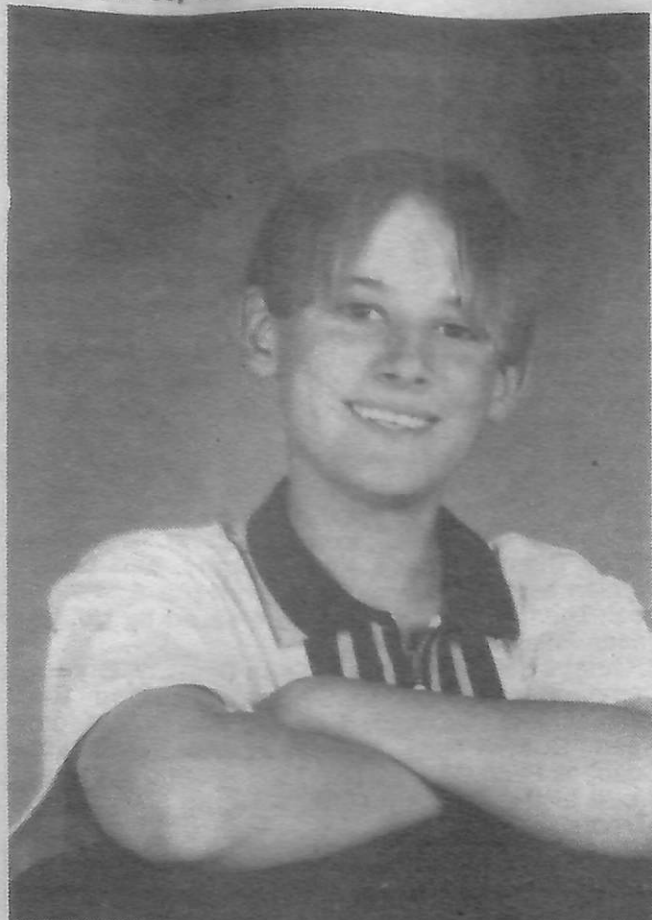
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AHS FRESHMAN MATT SMITH

AHS Freshman Bound For Super Bowl In Sunny San Diego

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Agawam High School freshman Matt Smith will be going to the Super Bowl in San Diego next January. And he'll be doing it with class — an all-expenses paid deal which includes air fare, four nights in San Diego at the five-star Western Hotel, Super Bowl tickets, the Super Bowl party, and meeting the players. And he is only 14.

Matt won the super trip by writing an essay on why he should go to the game. It was sponsored by the Gillette Company and had to be completed in 25 words or less. Matt plays freshman football for AHS. One of the things he mentioned in the letter was he felt such an experience would help him on the team.

Matt will be accompanied by his dad, Kelli Rooney. Matt hopes one of the teams participating in the big bowl will be his favorite team — the Miami Dolphins.

Oh yes, one other thing. When Matt attends the Super Bowl party, he plans on wearing a tuxedo.

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Notice is hereby given under General Laws, Chapter 138, that Rich Bar, Inc., d/b/a Goodfellaz, Richard J. Girard, Jr., Manager has applied for Transfer of License, Pledge of License, Change of Manager, Change of Corporate Name, Change of D/B/A, from Johnny's, Inc., to Goodfellaz, Richard J. Girard, Jr., Manager, 360 North Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA. Building consisting of: thirty-nine hundred square feet, two story brick building: 1st floor dining area and kitchen with seating capacity of 76, 5 entrances and exits, bar area with 17 seats and restrooms, 2nd floor tables seating 26. All handicap accessible. Public Hearing to be held on Wednesday, November 12, 1997, at 7:00 P.M., in the Faolin Peirce Room, Agawam Police Headquarters, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA.

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Published: October 30, 1997

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ADVERTISER NEWS

Outdoors New England

by Kent Servis
Outdoor Writer

Archery Season To Open

Baystate bowhunters will be taking to the woods for the 1997 archery season on deer. The season runs from November 3, 1997 until November 22, 1997. Massachusetts bowhunters may also hunt during the primitive firearms season, which starts on December 15th and ends on December 20, 1997.

Those bowhunters who elect to hunt during the primitive firearms season must wear the minimum amount of hunter orange as is required by law.

With certain special events taking place, yours truly has not had much of a chance to wet a line or get out in back of a bird dog. Reports from those whose wagon is not quite as full, indicate that

Agawam Soccer Association Standings (As Of 10/26/97)

UNDER 10 GIRLS	W	L	T	P
Lyman's Gold	9	1	0	18
Brewster's Maroon	6	2	2	14
Pfau's Royal Blue	5	2	3	13
Maloney's Blue Lightning	5	5	1	11
Gould's Orange	4	7	1	9
Wood's Green	3	6	0	4
Klimczak's Red	0	9	1	1

UNDER 12 GIRLS	W	L	T	P
Adams' Blue Lightning	6	1	3	15
Zmaczynski's Big Green	6	3	1	13
Patrick's Blue Sonic	6	4	0	12
Francis' Orange Crushers	4	4	2	10
Chiclana's Golden Eagles	4	5	2	10
Rollins' Red Hot Peppers	3	5	2	8
Morace's Maroon	2	9	0	4

UNDER 14 COED	W	L	T	P
Southwick	8	1	0	16
Fournier's Royal Blue	6	3	1	13
Fleming's Blue Vikings	3	4	3	12
Heneghan's Red	5	5	0	10
Spear's Green	3	6	1	5
Hamre's Orange	1	6	1	3

UNDER 17 COED	W	L	T	P
Kelly's Navy Blue	8	0	0	16
Cincotta's Big Green II	5	3	0	10
Gaffney's Red	3	5	0	6
Fleming's Orange Stingrays	0	8	0	0

U-12 BOYS' TEAMS	W	L	T	P
Lyman's Blue Hawks	8	0	0	16
Harlow's Fighting Irish	5	2	2	12
Martin's Gold Lightning	4	3	1	9
Ferreira's Knights	3	3	2	8
Myers' Red Storm	1	6	2	4
Moysis' Strikers	0	7	1	1

U-10 BOYS' TEAMS	W	L	T	P
Nawson's Lightning	9	0	2	20
Foley's Green Machine	6	2	2	14
Sabola's Minutemen	7	3	0	14
Gonyeau's Red Dogs	5	3	2	12
Mokrzycki's Golden Warriors	4	6	0	8
Holmes' Blue Bombers	1	8	1	3
Skolnick's Men In Black	0	10	1	1

Our deadline is
Tuesday at noon!

birds are well-distributed in open covers and that the wildlife management areas have been stocked.

FISH REPORTS FRESH WATER

Congamond Lakes continue to give up an occasional Atlantic Salmon along with some nice trout. Trolling near the surface, especially around the southern section of Middle Pond, has been productive. Bass fishermen report that slow presentations are the key to largemouth success, with jig and pig combos producing in deep water.

Connecticut River fishermen are starting to take some nice perch at the mouths of tributaries, with some slab-sized crappies mixed in. Pin head shiners on small marabou jigs have been scoring well.

SALT WATER

Reports from Point Judith to the Western Sound indicate that some large stripers are hitting off the reefs. Three-way rigged eels drifted over the reefs at night had a big payoff for Jim Evans of Agawam, on a recent night foray off the Watch Hill Reefs. Jim says that the biggest striper of his life was lost at the side of the boat this weekend.

Slammer Blues in the 15- to 18-pound class are murdering schools of baitfish in the more popular spots. Single-hook lures should be used to facilitate unhooking and release.



ROSE PIGNATARE is the senior co-captain of the Springfield College field hockey team.

Rose Pignatare Playing Key Role For Fine SC Field Hockey Team

Rose Pignatare, the daughter of Frank and Carol Pignatare of 685 Suffield Street, Agawam, is currently serving as a senior co-captain of the 1997 Springfield College Pride field hockey team.

Pignatare plays the important defensive position of center-back. The team currently has a record of 13-5, prior to the final two games of the regular season.

The Pride hope to make it to the NCAA post-season during the second weekend of November. Rose was a member of the 1994 Agawam High School graduating class and a member of the AHS varsity team for four years where she served as co-captain her senior year.

Every four years, the Springfield College field hockey team is capable of traveling to a location in the world where the team has the opportunity to play against international players. Following graduation in May 1998, Rose and her teammates will be taking a European field hockey tour in Amsterdam, Holland.

Rose will have the privilege of playing against Dutch club teams for seven days and watching the World Cup Field Hockey Championships before returning home.

Currently, Rose, a physical therapy major and dean's list student, is fundraising in order to make this trip to Holland possible. Every member of the team is responsible for funding their own trip. If you would like to help support Rose and aid in financing the trip, please make checks payable to Springfield College field hockey and send them to Rose Pignatare, 685 Suffield Street, Agawam, MA 01001.

ADVERTISER NEWS



Pioneer Valley Soccer Round-Up

U-10 GIRLS - "Hot Shots"

Well, we almost made it through the entire season without rain. However, even with the cold and rain on Saturday, the Hot Shots still had fun with AJAC. Both teams went onto the field with their hands buried in short sleeves, but managed to get down to business once the whistle blew.

The first half of the game had both teams pretty evenly matched. The Hot Shots were able to keep some pressure on the AJAC defense and the outcome was a dreaded OWN GOAL, giving the Hot Shots the advantage at halftime with one goal. Our keeper took on her share of shots, too, and had some great saves, thus keeping AJAC scoreless.

The second half had our girls cold and some not wanting to leave the nice warm blankets provided for them, but when it came time to do their part, they stepped up and played a great second half. With the ball wet and slippery, the team did well passing the ball and positioning themselves for a chance to score. The second goal made was due to the right forward playing wide and up, waiting for the right opportunity which came when our center bounced the ball off the keeper right to the forward, who pushed the ball into the net.

Then our defense got a little congested in front of our goal, and the keeper had a tough time defending a nice shot put into our goal, giving AJAC their first and only goal. Our final goal was made during a corner kick from the right side. The ball was delivered perfectly to the front of the net, but missed by everyone except our left forward, who was waiting on the far post and drilled the ball in the net.

Great game, Hot Shots! Thank you, AJAC, for another friendly game. ***

Sunday ended our regular season by taking us to play the Ludlow Lions. The Lions have become a good contender since the beginning of the season. We saw them early in the season and did well against them. Then we met again at the Ludlow Columbus Day Tournament and they played tough enough to tie us.

We could not take this game for granted, so we came out strong. The Lions showed us that they were not to be taken lightly. Both keepers had some great saves and were able to stop all of the attacks, thus ending the first half at 0-0.

During the second half, we made a few switches in positions and found what we would be a stronger combination against this team. However, even with this improvement, the Lions were able to score the first goal just minutes into the half. This seemed to be the spark the Hot Shots needed. The effort and intensity grew from that point on.

We were creating more opportunities to score and finally did at the 10-minute mark. All year long, we practiced a drill which required the girls to sprint across the field, keeping the ball close to their feet. On this day it paid off, as our center found her way through the Lions' defense and (with the ball close to her feet) she managed to outplay the keeper and score our first goal.

The Hot Shots were charged now. Six minutes later, our right forward brought the ball up the sideline, outmaneuvered the defense, and put a big curve ball in the net. There was so much curve on the ball it looked like it was going to miss the goal. Neither shooter nor keeper realized it was a goal until the referee signaled a goal.

The final goal came about one minute before the end of the game. It started from a Hot Shots throw-in to our center, who received the ball, turned, and fired a bullet of a shot into the goal, wedging the ball between the net and goal bars.

It was a nice way to end the season by having two well-played, fun games this past weekend.

The Hot Shots had a very successful and fun season this fall. The final totals were: 9 wins, 5 losses, 0 ties. We scored 24 goals and gave up 13. Great job!

U-11 Girls - "Umbrolievables"

"A Cinderella Ending for a Cinderella Team."

Members of the girls' U-11 Division I team called the Umbrolievables ended the season with a limo ride from the last game in Northampton to Bruno's for a pizza party. The team had just completed a successful campaign in the PVJSL with a team essentially composed of Agawam in-town players.

In the summer, coaches Eddie and Earle, with the help of the in-town director, were able to restructure a team that had been mercilessly reduced to just nine players with any Pioneer Valley experience. With the team making the transition to Division I after decimating U-10 D-II competition (13 shutouts, six goals allowed in 16 games), acclimating to a full-sized field with 11 players is tough enough without having to develop the skills of a whole new crop of players (eight). The challenge that the coaches accepted was to make the team viable in Division I and to enhance its reputation and competitiveness.

Early in the season, it was not quite apparent that such a lofty goal was achievable, but undaunted, coaches Eddie and Earle set out to pragmatically piece together a cohesive unit. The competition in girls' U-11 Division I in the PVJSL is as good as you will find anywhere, as is evidenced by the fact that several of the local teams have gone undefeated in both league play and have won tournaments from Massachusetts to Canada.

To draw girls from an essentially non-competitive environment, integrate them into a functioning unit, and teach them skills beyond the level of their former experience is what coaches Eddie and Earle are known for. The unique challenge this time for both the coaches and the girls was to accomplish this in short-enough time to remain in Division I with legitimate credentials. Most of the teams the Umbros would have to face have been together for five to six seasons, often augmented by new players either relocating or moving up from some D-II feeder team.

The results of the first few games left doubt as to the attainment of our goals. Having sustained early-season losses by scores of 3-0 and 5-0, it was obvious that there was a great need to improve at an accelerating pace.

After losing a tight, 3-1 game to an experienced Ludlow team that was the current Division I Pioneer Valley champion from the spring, the Umbros came together to register a tie against a very physical Westfield team. The next challenge for this developing team was to face the class of this girls' division, the undefeated sister team from Agawam.

The opponent had been demolishing the competition, but the Umbros' defense came to play, with just two defensive lapses resulting in a 2-0 loss. This was a big boost for the Umbrolievable team, as it legitimized its position in D-I and formed a "self-pride" that would speed up the team's development.

After a rocky 1-5-1 start, the Umbros have gone 2-4-1 to tie for the sixth position in Division I. The record was accomplished with an exciting 1-0 loss to the division leader, the difference being one mistake. The Umbrolievables have proven that they will, as coach Eddie always says, "play anybody at any time."

A team has come together through hard work and great monitoring. The Umbros are preparing for a great winter indoors and await with great anticipation the spring season.

Coaches Eddie and Earle are extremely proud of these girls and wish them the best of soccer, both now and in the future. A job well down against the odds.

U-9 Boys - "Ball Hogs"

The Agawam Ball Hogs ended the season with a 2-0 victory against Holy Cross on Saturday.

In the first half, while fighting a cold, strong, and rainy wind, front linesman Greg Santos

scored an awesome goal, assisted by Anthony Costa. Numerous shots on goal were taken by Carmino Bonavita, Anthony DePalma, and Ryan Wytrych, as the Ball Hogs controlled the game.

In the second half, while the Ball Hogs kept the pressure on, Greg Santos scored another goal, assisted by Chris Darnell. As was the case throughout the season, excellent defensive playing by Thomas Albano, Allan Murphy, and Chris Wyman kept Holy Cross away from the Agawam goal. The few shots of goal were saved by goalie Jason Polek.

Outstanding teamwork by Sean Conway, Bryant Damours, and Brandon Shuwalter helped the team achieve this much-deserved win. Ball Hogs' Head Coach Tony DePalma and Assistant Coaches Faith Conway and Tony Albano are very proud of the season results, 7-3-2, as are all the parents.

The team's potential is unlimited. See you in the spring.

U-10 Boys - "Cheetahs"

This past Saturday, under conditions that were far from perfect, the Cheetahs battled to a 1-1 tie against Easthampton. Easthampton scored midway in the first half in a blast past Agawam's goalie.

A change in the lineup saw the Cheetahs' tough fullback, Nick Pokora, on offense. In the second half, Nick scored, heading the ball past the goalie to give Agawam the tie.

On Sunday, the Cheetahs lost, 1-0, to a skilled passing Holyoke United team. Holyoke scored early and looked unbeatable in the early going, but Agawam got it together and played them tough the rest of the game.

Much thanks to the coaches for their time and effort: Chet Comee, Steve Powers, and Steve Bushey.

Congratulations to all the boys for a well-played season. See you in the spring.

U-11 Girls - "Cobra"

On October 16th, the Cobra girls took on the other team from Agawam, the Umbrolievables, at Agawam Junior High.

The Cobra set the pace in this one right from the start. They got the ball into the Umbrolievables' end and never let it out! The Cobras had a few good shots on net, but with the Umbrolievables content to have all of their players on defense, the Cobras didn't have a lot of room to maneuver.

The half ended with the score 0-0. The game remained scoreless until about midway through the second half. The Cobras finally landed one of their many shots on goal into the back of the net. The Cobra girls continued to dominate play and control the ball, keeping the Umbrolievables in their half of the field for most of the game.

The goalie for the Umbrolievables made some good saves and both teams played a very spirited game of soccer. ***

On October 18th, the Cobras traveled to Belchertown to take on Cold Spring. The Cobra girls played very well once they found the field!

Everyone was expecting a good game. The Cobras had defeated Cold Spring earlier in the season, 1-0. The girls from Belchertown couldn't seem to get anything going and the Cobras capitalized.

Their passing was outstanding, so was the way they got so many of their players involved in the offense. They didn't try to force the ball through when the opening wasn't there. They passed the ball back to the fullbacks and the sweeper, creating space for their attack.

The score was 3-0, Cobras, at halftime. The Cobras gave up a goal in the second half, but not before they added two more of their own. The final was 5-1, bringing the Cobras' Pioneer Valley record to 13-0-0.

Agawam Nips Ludlow In Over-30 Soccer Match

Raul Ferreira scored a goal in Ludlow just as he had done many times before. Unfortunately for Ludlow, this time the Agawam resident was playing for Agawam.

Raul's early second-half goal on a rebound was the only goal of the game. Agawam's keeper Radamas Rivera made no mistakes defending his end. "Remo" has the city of Philadelphia's all-

time scoring record, but has proven to be just as good a keeper.

As usual, Agawam's Mike Lyman controlled the midfield and our former resident, Mike Knodler (now of Montgomery), helped "Remo" clear the penalty area. Helping the defense also were Alan Corbin and Don Conklin.

Midfielder Rob Wojcik helped the whole game

on the field and with his long throw-ins from the sidelines. Forward Walt Willard headed the long balls whenever he could to help prevent Ludlow from getting out of their end.

This Sunday, Agawam plays Belchertown (away) at 9:00 in the final of the best-of-three series. Each team has won one.

If interested in over-30 soccer, call 786-7924 and leave a message.

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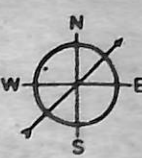
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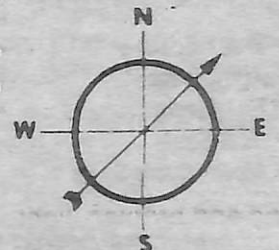
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CARS FOR SALE

PARK PLACE AUTO SALES: 1688 Main Street, Agawam, MA. 789-6656.
1995 Chrysler La Baron LX, conv., 23K \$9,900
1994 Mercury Topaz GL, 4 dr., AT, 30K \$5,995
1992 Chev. Corsica LT, 6 cyl., AT \$3,995
1991 Ford F150, 6 cyl., 5 speed, cap \$5,995
1991 Chev. Blazer Tahoe LT, 4 dr., 4x4 \$8,995
1991 Ford T-Bird, V8, AT \$2,995
1991 Cadillac Eldo., moon roof, leather \$6,995
1990 Chev. Beretta, 6 cyl., AT \$2,995
1990 Pontiac Firebird, AT, 6 cyl. \$2,995
1990 Ford Tempo, 4 dr., 72K \$2,995
1985 Chev. Cavalier, 2 dr., AT \$699
New cars arriving daily — 789-6656.

TAG SALE

TAG SALE: Sat., Nov. 1st, 10 AM - 4 PM, 22 Primrose Ln. Exercise & Sports Equipment, Automotive, Adult Clothing, Household & Misc. Items.

TAG SALE: 88 Raymond Circle, 9 AM to 4 PM, Sat., Nov. 1st. Moving — everything must go! Small girls' clothes, household items, garden and shop tools, picnic table, auto. trash compactor, and many misc. items.

TAG SALE: Sat., Nov. 1st, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, 3040 Phelps Rd., West Suffield, CT. Ski equipment, skis, boots and polls, and many miscellaneous items.

TAG SALE: Moving sale — Treasured items, many household items. Fri., Oct. 31st, & Sat., Nov. 1st, 9 A.M. to 3 P.M. 37 Holland Dr., Agawam (opposite the high school).

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